





uNozibele kanye nezinwele ezintathu

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 3

 isiZulu zu



Emandulo amantombazane amathathu ahamba ayotheza.



Ilanga lalishisa kakhulu base behlela emfuleni ukuyobhukuda. Badlala, bethelana ngamanzi ngesikhathi bebhukuda.



Kusenjalo babona ukuthi isikhathi sase sihambile.
Baphuthuma bephindela emakhaya.



Bathi sebesondele emakhaya, uNozibele wazithinta emqaleni wathola ukuthi umgexo wakhe wawungekho. Wayewukhohliwe! “Ngicela ningiphelezele bandla!” ebancenga. Kodwa abangane bakhe bathi sekuhlwile.



UNozibele waphindela yedwa emfuleni. Wawuthola umgexo wakhe waphuthuma ephindela ekhaya. Kodwa endleleni waduka ebumnyameni.



Buqamama wabona ukukhanya okwakuqhamuka endlini. Washesha wayakhona, wafika wangqongqoza emnyango.



Wamangala kakhulu ukuthi kwavulainja, yathi
“Ufunani la?” “Ngidukile ngicela indawo yokulala,”
kusho uNozibele. “Ngena ngaphakathi, ngale
kwalokho ngizokuluma!”, kushoinja. UNozibele
wangena ngaphakathi.



Inja yathi, “Ngiphekele!” “Kodwa angikaze ngiyiphekele inja,” kuphendula uNozibele. “Phela ngale kwaloko ngizokuluma!” kusho inja. UNozibele wayiphekela inja.



Inja yathi, “Ngindlalele umbhede!” Nozibele wathi, “Angikaze ngendlalele inja.” “Ndlala ngale kwaloko ngizokuluma!”,kusho inja. uNozibele wawendlala umbhede.



Zonke izinsuku wayepheka, ashanele, futhi ayiwasheleinja. Ngelinye ilangainja yathi, “Nozibele, namhlanje ngizovakashela abangane bami. Shanela la endlini, upheke bese uwashe izingubo zami ngaphambi kokuba ngibuye.”



Isikhashana nje inja isihambile, uNozibele wathatha izinwele ezintathu ekhanda lakhe. Wabeka unwele olulodwa ngaphansi kombhede, wabeka olunye unwele emva kwesivalo, wabeka olunye esibayeni. Wase wabaleka waya ekhaya ngokushesha.



Yathiinja ibuya, yafuna uNozibele. “Nozibele, ukuphi?” imemeza. “Ngilapha ngaphansi kombhede,” kusho unwele lokuqala. “Ngilapha, emva kwesivalo,” kusho unwele lwesibili. “Ngilapha, esibayeni,” kusho unwele lwesithathu.



Inja yavele yabona nje ukuthi uNozibele wayeyicuphile. Inja yagijima imfuna. Kodwa abafowabo kaNozibele babeyilinde nezinkulu izinduku. Inja yabaleka yaphindela emuva, ayiphindanga yabonakala kusukela ngalelo langa.




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