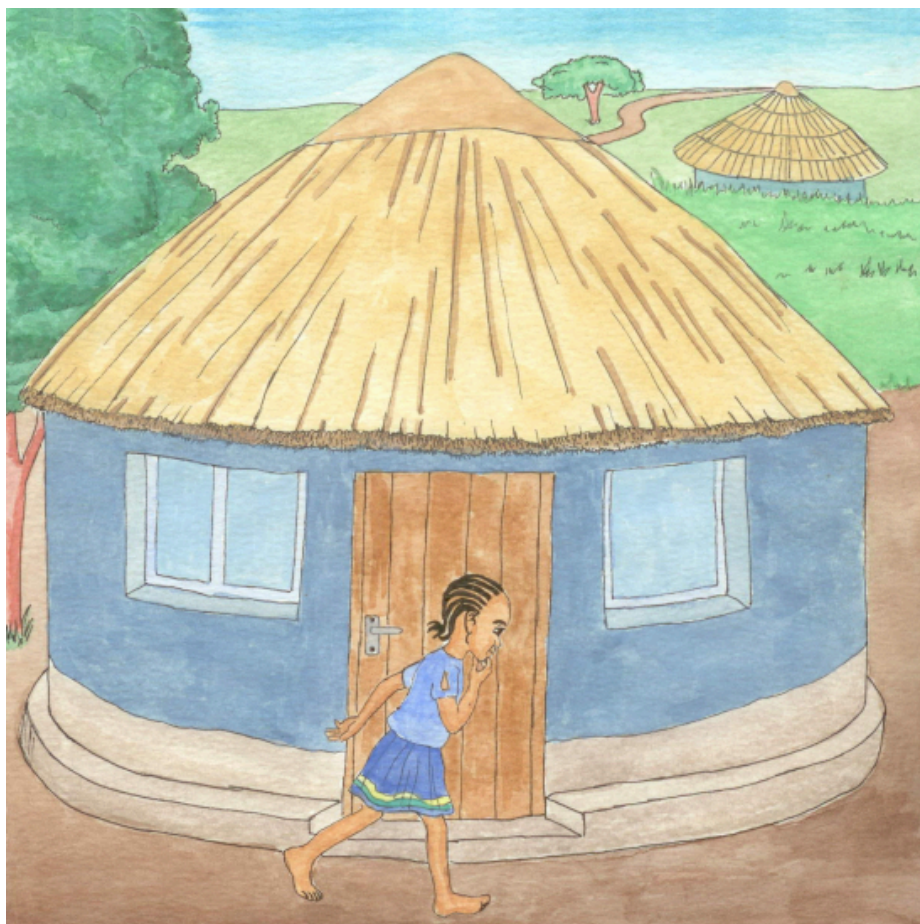




UMama uSophie, umfazi okhaliphileyo

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Ngaminazana ithile eyayishushu, uKhosi wayesihla esenyuka engazi ukuba angenza ntoni.

Umama wakhe wayesemasimini emshiye ngasemva uKhosi.

“Ingaba ndingenza ntoni?” watsho ezithethela uKhosi.



Qatha! Icebo lavela njengombane engqondweni kaKhosi.

“Ndiza kuya kuqubha emlanjeni, kodwa ndiza kuhamba nabani? Umama wam akafuni ndihambe ndedwa,” wacinga njalo uKhosi.

Kanye ngaloo mzuzu kwagqitha umama uSophie esiya emlanjeni. Wayethwele ibhaskithi enkulu igcwele ziimpahla.



“Heke! Ndiza kulandela uMama uSophie ukuya emlanjeni,” watsho ezithethela uKhosi.

Waleqa uMama Sophie. “Ndingahamba nawe Mama ukuya emlanjeni?” wabuza uKhosi. UMama uSophie wancuma wanqwala intloko.

Endleleni, badibana noNozipho. UNozipho wayengakuthandi ukuqubha kodwa wayekuthanda ukubukela abaqubhayo.



Emlanjeni uKhosi wazixelela, “Namhlanje, ndigqibelisile ukuqubha enyeleni ngathi ndilusana, ndiza kubonisa wonke umntu ukuba ndiyakwazi ukuqubha enzulwini nam.”

Waziphosa emlanjeni. Dyumpu! Phezulu, ezantsi, nangaphantsi.

UNozipho wabukela emgama ngexa umhlobo wakhe equbha nabanye abantwana.



Njengokuba wayebukele uNozipho, kwakungathi bonke abantwana bazonwabele ngaphakathi emanzini.

Babequbha bengxola.

Babekhwazana bonwabile emanzini.



Wathi xa eqwalasela kwakhona uNozipho, waqaphela ukuba kukho into eyahlukileyo. UKhosi wayequbhela kude kwabanye abantwana.

UNozipho wasondela waze wajonga kwakhona. Othuswe yinto ayibonileyo, wabaleka waya kubiza oomama ababehlamba impahla emlanjeni.

“Ncedani! UKhosi uyatshona,” watsho ekhwaza uNozipho.



Ngephanyazo, uMama uSophie waxhuma wangena emanzini. Waqubha esehla ngomlambo.

Wayemana entywila ngaphantsi kwamanzi, aphinde athi gqi ngaphezulu, aphindele ngaphantsi kwakhona, ekhangela uKhosi.

Wamxhakamfula uKhosi ngengalo waqubhela enyeleni naye. Emva koko, uMama uSophie waphuma emanzini emthwele uKhosi.



UMama uSophie wagqitha ekhawulezile kwiqela Labantwana nabafazi ababesenza isijwili kwaye bekhwaza.

UNozipho wayebaleka emva kwakhe njengoko wayexhabashile esiya kwikliniki yaselalini, embeleke emhlana uKhosi.



Akufika ekliniki uMam' uSophie wadibana nomongikazi uNoxolo oweza ebaleka ukuza kunceda uKhosi.

UMongikazi wakhawuleza wamngenisa egumbini uKhosi baze abanye oomongikazi bakhawuleza nabo ukuya kunceda umongikazi uNoxolo.

“Usindile! Sibe nethamsanqa ngoba akahlalanga xesha lide phantsi kwamanzi!” watsho umongikazi.



Kwathi qabu kumama uSophie.

Wonke umntu ekiniki wavuyisana naye ngokukhalipha nokuba nesibindi kwakhe.

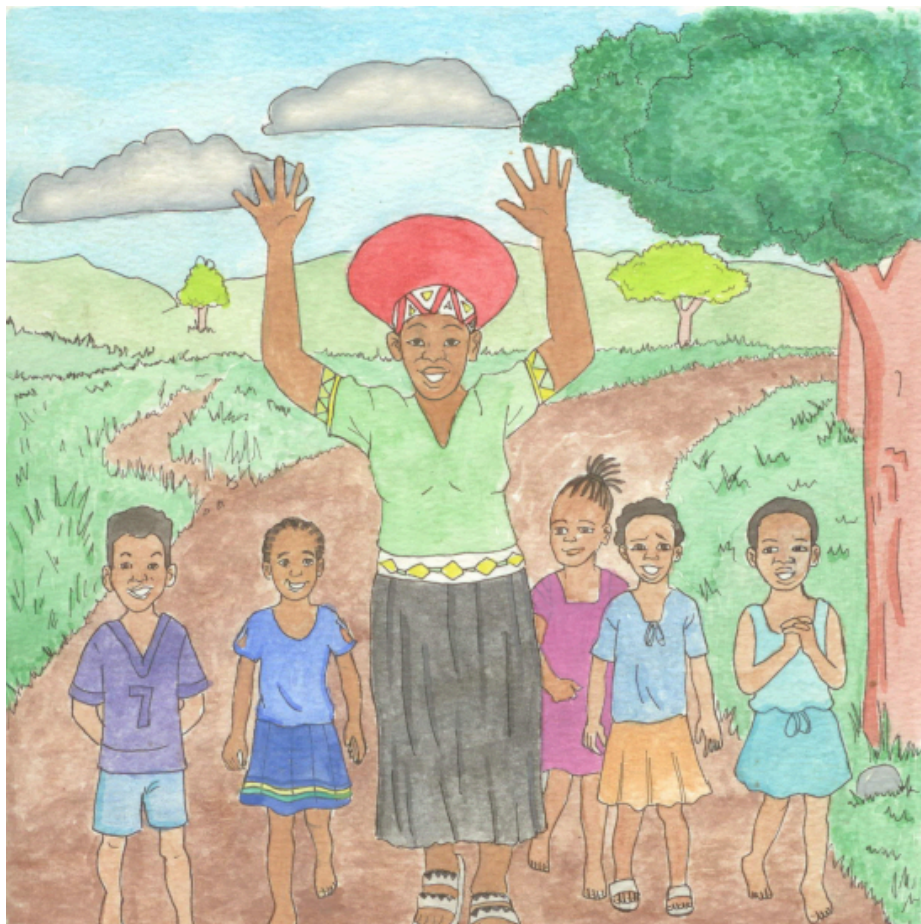
“Ndiyavuya ndikwazile ukusindisa ubomi,” watsho uMama Sophie ngokuzithoba.

Ezi ndaba zafikelela ezindlebeni zenkosi yaze yathumela umthunywa ukuya kubiza uMama uSophie.



Inkosi yamamela ngononophelo xa uMama uSophie wayechaza ukuba waba yincutshe yendadi njani na.

“Ndiseyintombazana, ndandinomhlobo owayehlala ngaphaya komlambo. Amanzi aba yinxalenye yobomi bethu. Kwafuneka sikwazile ukuqubha. Emlanjeni kulapho sasidlala khona, sisela, sihlambe kwaye silobe nokuloba!” watsho.



Inkosi yabiza imbizo elalini yaze yenza isaziso ngesigqibo sokuwonga uMama Sophie ngesenzo sobugorha.

Abafazi bayiyizela, amadoda abetha ikhwelo, abantwana bakhwaza ngemincili.

Ukususela ngaloo mini, abantwana babethanda ukulandela uMama uSophie nokuba uyaphi na. Wawungabeva becula, "Soze ndichukunyiswe nto, ukhona uMama onesibindi!"



Ulwazi Lwethu is a Zenex Foundation funded and initiated project to develop a series of graded and leisure African language readers and teacher support materials. This project is targeted at teaching and supporting learners in the Foundation Phase to improve their home language reading and understanding. The readers have been originated in nine African languages in collaboration with Molteno Institute for Language and Literacies, Nelson Mandela Institute for Education and Rural Development, Room to Read South Africa, and Saide. All resources are developed as Open Education Resources (OER).



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