

This book was originally written in Tshivenda by Fhulufhuwani Nomsa Tshililo Illustrated by Aimee Ayres Designed by Tshebetso Ditabo

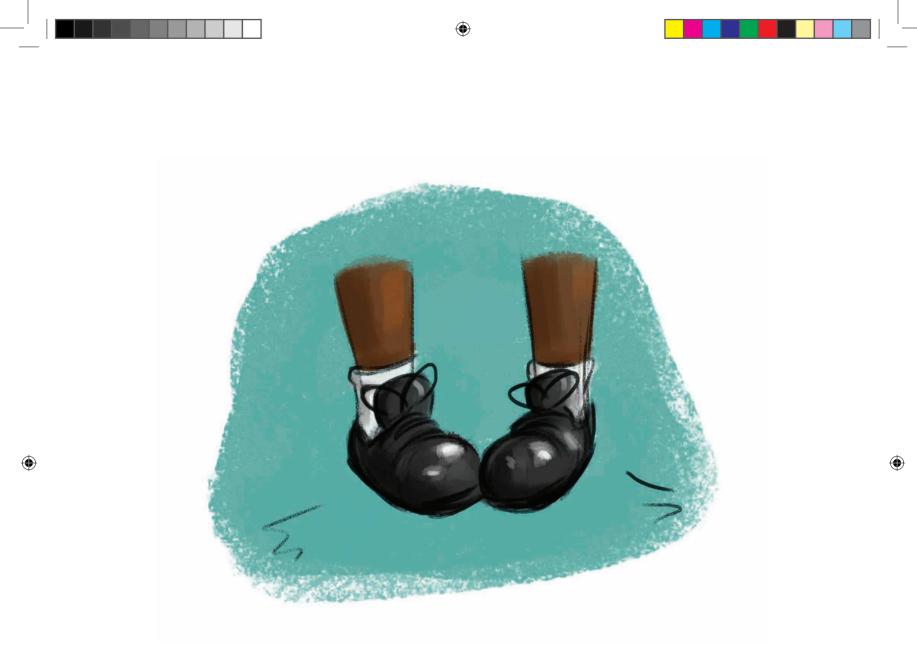






Nomsa is going to Grade One today. "I am very excited for Big School," she tells Mum.





"Look at my shiny shoes!"

Nomsa and Mum walk to the school gate together.



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"Mum, will you wait for me until school is out?" Nomsa asks.

"Don't worry, my girl. I will be here at the gate after school," says Mum.

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They arrive at the classroom together. "Welcome, my girl! What is your name?" asks Mrs Moyo, the teacher.

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"I am Nomsa!" she says proudly. "Bye, Mum. See you later!"



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Nomsa looks nervously at all the other children.

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Mrs Moyo takes her to her table. "Your name is written on your chair," says Mrs Moyo.

"Look!" she says. "Your name starts with the letter N."



Soon it is lunch time! Nomsa stands quietly in the lunch line.





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Norman pushes in front of her. "Why are you stepping on my new shoes?" she shouts.

Nomsa pushes Norman. Norman pushes Nomsa back.

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"Stop pushing!" says Mrs Moyo.

"Go to the back of the line, Norman! Wait your turn." She gives Nomsa a cloth to wipe her shoe.



Nomsa eats her lunch on the stoep. She is still cross about her shoe.

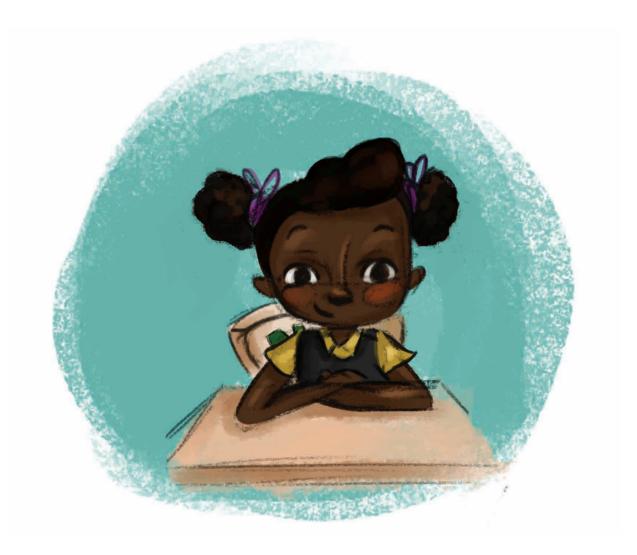


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Nomsa and Norman pull faces at each other.



Nomsa is the first one back to class. She sits down.



"Why are you sitting on my chair?" Norman shouts. He tries to pull the chair away.



Nomsa pulls the chair back. Norman pulls the chair again.



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"You two, what's wrong this time?" Mrs Moyo says.

"First he stood on my shoe. Now he wants my chair!" Nomsa shouts.



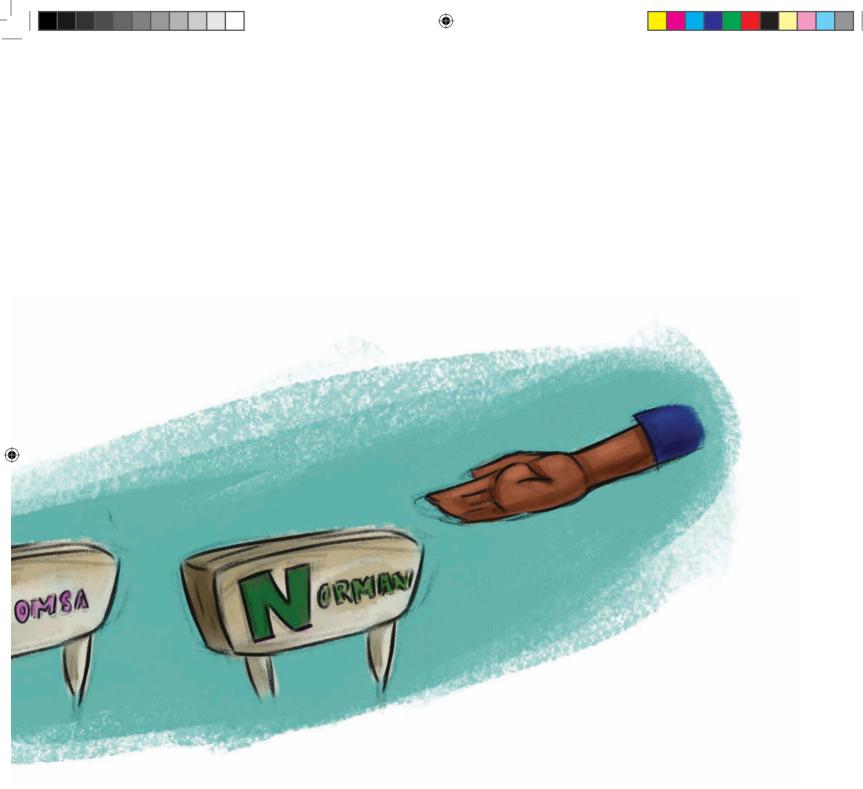
"This is my chair!" says Norman.

"No!" says Nomsa. "It is mine! Look at the letter N!"

"No, Nomsa. Both of your names start with the same letter," Mrs Moyo says.

"Here is your chair. Look! Norman also starts with N."





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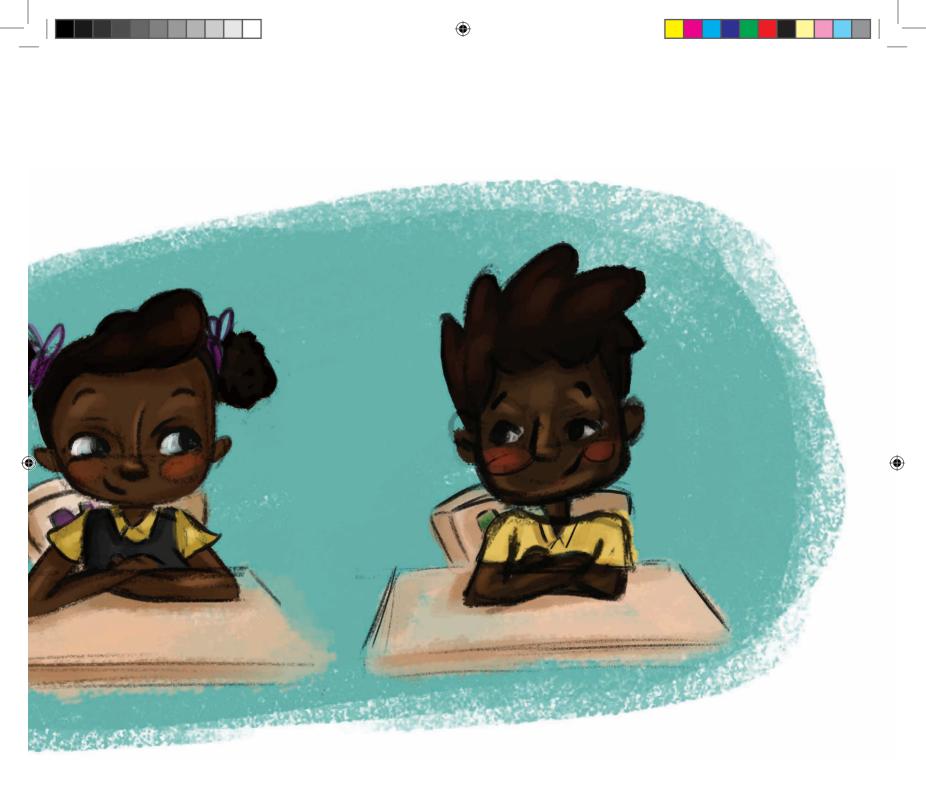
Nomsa sits down on her chair. She smiles at Norman.

"Mum tells me to say sorry when I am wrong," says Nomsa.

"I'm sorry, Norman. Will you be my friend?"

Norman nods and smiles.





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