



Isigodlo Esifanelekile SikaNkk Phengwini



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Isigodlo Esifanelekile SikaNkk Phengwini

(Mrs Penguin's Perfect Palace)

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with Vian Oelofsen and Jennifer Jacobs, and the help of Book Dash participants in Cape Town on 10 May 2014.

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Helen Brain • Celeste Beckerling





“Ngifisa sengathi ngabe NGINENDLU!” kusho uNkk Phengwini. “Angikuthandi ukuhlala emfucuzeni.”





“Nkk Phengwini othandekayo,” kusho
uMnu Phengwini. “Sizokwakhela isigodlo.”





Ngakho umndeni
wakwaPhengwini waqala
ukusebenza.

“Isihlabathi singenza
ngilunywe,”
kukhononda uSisi.



“Ukukala kwakhona
kunephutha,”
kusho uBhuti.





“Ngilambile,” kwasho
uMagwinya.



UNkk Phengwini
waphefumulela
phezulu. Wayenza
wonke umsebenzi.





Ekugcineni isigodlo
saqedwa.





Kodwa igagasi lamanzi lafika lasikhukhula.
“Sizozama futhi,” kusho uMnu Phengwini.





“Wozani zingane, sizokwakhela uMama isithabathaba ngamatshe.”





Ngakho umndeni wakwaPhengwini
waqala ukusebenza.





“Amatshe ayasinda,”
kukhononda uSisi.



“Ukukala kwakhona
kunephutha,”
kusho uBhuti.



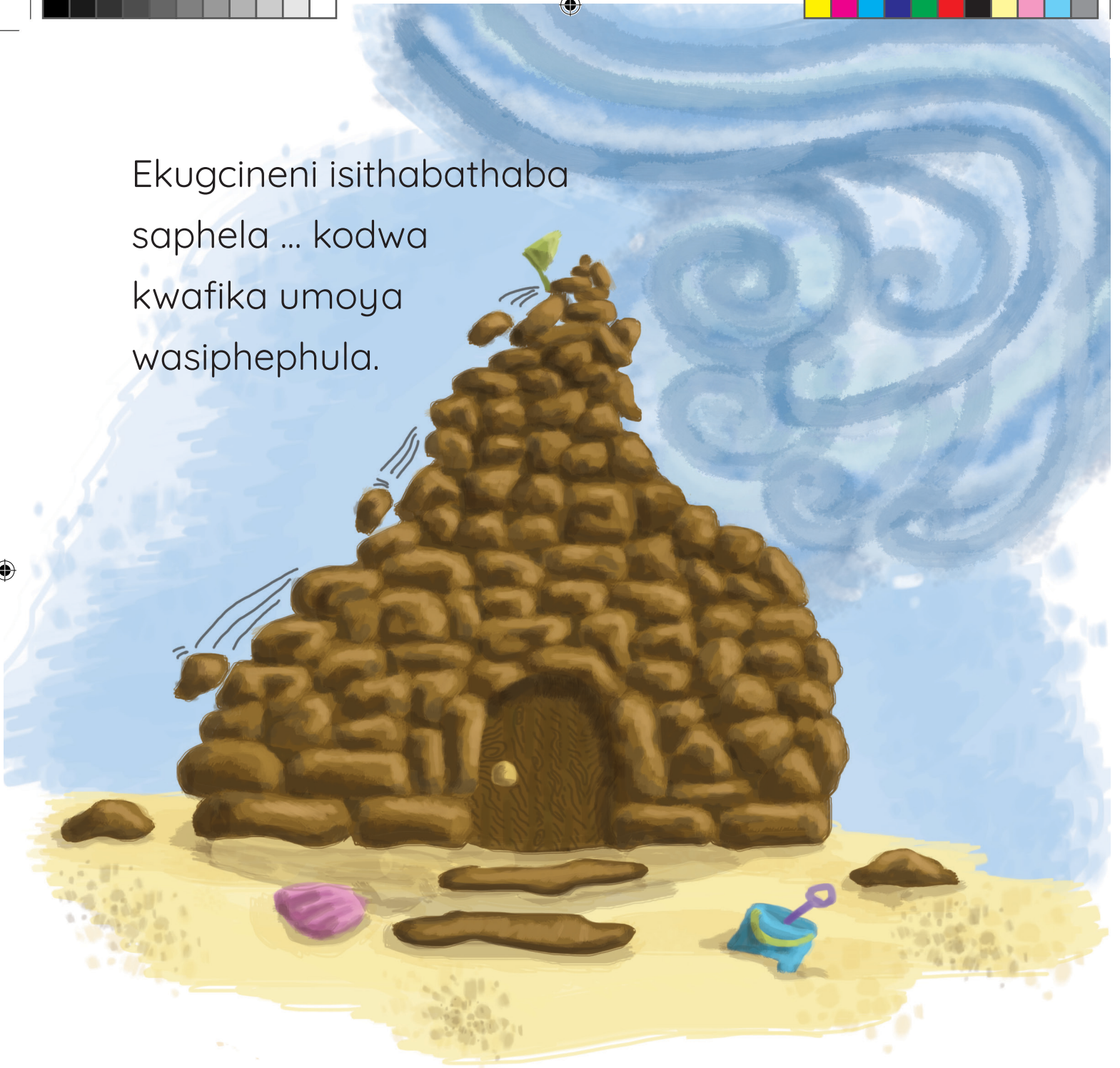


“Mina ngisalambile,” kwasho uMagwinya.





Ekugcineni isithabathaba
saphela ... kodwa
kwafika umoya
wasiphephula.





UNkk Phengwini wacasuka.
“Angisezukuwenza omunye
umsebenzi,” kusho yena.





“Sizozama futhi,” kusho uMnu Phengwini.

“Angicabangi lutho olunye,” kusho uSisi.

“Kulukhuni kakhulu.”

“Asinawo ngisho
usimende,” kusho uBhuti.

“Ngeke ukwazi ukwakha
indlu eqinile ngaphandle
kukasimende.”





“Mina ngilambile,” kusho uMagwinya.
UNkk Phengwini waphefumulela phezulu.
Wayengeke alithole ikhaya lakhe.





“Awubheke nje wonke lo doti,” kusho yena.





Khona manjalo uNkk Phengwini
wafikelwa wumbono.





“Bhuti, landa
izigxobo,”
kusasho yena.

“Sisi, thola
amanetha.”





“Magwinya, landa
ipulastiki. Mnu Phengwini
letha isando.”

Basebenza
usuku lonke.





“Ngikhathele,” kwasho uSisi.

“Qhubeka usebenze,” kwasho uNkk Phengwini.

“Ukukala kwakhona kunephutha,” kwasho uBhuti.

“Qhubeka usebenze,” kwasho
uNkk Phengwini.





“Mina ngisalambile,” kwasho uMagwinya.

“Qhubeka usebenze,” kwasho uNkk Phengwini.





“Kuzoba kuhle ngokumangalisayo,” kwasho
uMnu Phengwini.

“Wenza umsebenzi oncomekayo,” kwasho
uNkk Phengwini.





Ngakho basebenza,
basebenza,
basebenza ...

... kwathi
ekugcineni
ikhaya laqedwa
ukwakhiwa.







“Siyakwamukela esigodlweni sakho,” kwasho uMnu Phengwini. “Ngiyabonga,” kwasho yena.

“Yisigodlo Esifanelekile sikaNkk Phengwini.”



