

Kufuna Umoya Wentfwasahlobo



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(Searching for the spirit of spring)

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Kubandza kweBusika besekwendlulile.

Besekungena Intfwasahlobo emmangweni wekhaboNkanyezi. Masinyane-nje bantfu besebatawubungata sikhatsi semnyaka lesisha. Nkanyezi bekasawulindzele ngalabovu lombungato weNtfwasahlobo kwendlula nanoma nguliphi lilanga lemnyaka.



Ngalelinye lilanga ekuseni kufutfumele, Nkanyezi weva bantfu labadzala lababili bemmango bakhuluma ngalombungato.

“Bantfu bakaNdlovu sebalahlakelwe ngumoya wabo wekubungata,” kwabubula lomunye.

“Sitawuba nawo kanjani umcimbi weNtfwasahlobo emmangweni losewukukhohliwe kubungata?” kwabuta lona lomunye.





Nkanyezi wakhatsateka.

“Lilanga litawukhanya kanjani ngaphandle kwekutsi sihlabele kute kutsi silivuse ebutfongweni basebusika?” watibuta.

Nkanyezi wacabanga sikhatsi lesidze.

“Ngifanele kutsi ngitfole loku lesekusilahlekele,” watsatsa sincumo.

“Ngifanele kutsi ngiyofuna tintfo letitawubuyisa umoya wekubungata emmangweni wakitsi.”

Labantfu labadzala banika Nkanyezi tibusiso nemvumo yabo kutsi angenele loluhambo. Bamnika sikhwama sekutsi afake letintfo bekatawutitfola.

Nkanyezi bekesaba, kepha bekakholwa kutsi utawuphumelela.





Nkanyezi wahamba lilanga lonkhe. Wakhuphuka intsaba, waphindze wehla wangena etihoshini. Wantjweza ngesikebhe wewela umfula lomkhulu, waphindze futsi wakhuphuka emkhatsini wemadvwala lakhaliphile. Wahamba etigangeni wate wefika emtfuntini wetintsaba letibovu.

Kwatsi lapho sekusondzela busuku, Nkanyezi wefika kulomunye ummango wemaphethini nemibala langakate wayibona phambilini. Watjela bantfu labadzala balommango ngeluhambo lwakhe lwekubuyisa kubantfu umoya wekubungata.

Make walommango wapha Nkanyezi siphoh.

Watjela lentfombatana watsi, “Ngelutsandvo, sikupha lopende wekubuyisa umbala emmangweni losewuphelelwe kuba ngologcamile.”

Nkanyezi wababonga labantfu labadzala wabese ufaka lopende esikhwameni.

Ngakusasa ekuseni kakhulu wangenela indlela yakhe futsi. Bekajabule kakhulu ngalesipho sakhe semibala.





Nkanyezi wahamba lilanga lonkhe. Wendlula emahlatsini lamanengi etihlahla letinkhulu. Kwatsi lapho sibhakabhaka sesicala kuba mnyama kakhulu kutsi angakhona kubona, weva kukhala kwetigubhu. Wahamba masinyane wacondza lapho bekukhala khona letigubhu, weva umoya wekudansa ungena etinyaweni takhe letidziniwe.

Nkanyezi watitfola asemmangweni wakaBhubezi. Bantfu bebahleti batungelete umlilo. Bebahlabela futsi bashaya tigubhu. Abengakate asawuve umculo lomnandzi kangaka.

Watjela bantfu labadzala balommango ngeluhambo lwakhe lwekubuyisa kubantfu bakubo umoya wekubungata. Bantfu bakaBhubezi bammema kutsi aphumule futsi alale busuku bunye.





Ekuseni sikhulu sabita Nkanyezi.

“Mntfwana wami,” kwasho sona, nasi sigubhu lesikhetsekile. Sidlala ingoma lensha ngaso sonkhe sikhatsi nawusishaya.”

Nkanyezi wababonga labantfu labadzala. Watsatsa sigubhu sakhe wasifaka esikhwameni. Wachubeka nendlela yakhe futsi. Bekajabule kakhulu ngesipho sakhe semculo nemdanso.

Ngelilanga lesitsatfu leluhambo lwakhe watsi nakendlula emadlelo etinkhomo letikhuluphele weva imphumulo yakhe icala kukitalakiteka. Liphunga lelimnandzi lakitalakita tinambitsi telulwimi lwakhe futsi umlomo wakhe wacala wavuta ematse. Wabese ulandzela leliphunga. Wefika kulomunye ummango lapho khona bantfu bebeme ngasemabhodweni labekapheke inyama.

Lesive lesi besidvume ngekudla kwemicimbi futsi. Nkanyezi bekangakate asakunambitse kudla lokumnandzi kangaka. Ngemuva asadlile wasutsa, watjela bantfu balommango nalabadzala ngeluhambo lwakhe lwekubuyisa kubantfu bakubo umoya wekubungata.





Ngakusasa, umkhandlu lophekako wamnika
titsako letiyimfihlo.

“Ndvodzakati yetfu,” basho njalo. “Letitsako leti,
tinesiciniseko sekutsi tisu titawujabula! Sikupha
sipho sekudla lokumnandzi.”

Nkanyezi wababonga labantfu labadzala wabese
ufaka titsako takhe esikhwameni.

Bekati kutsi unako konkhe bekakudzinga.
Asanemandla lamasha wabese ucala luhambo
lwakhe loludze lwekubuyela emuva emmangweni
wakaNdlovu.

Watsi nakafika emmangweni wakubo bantfu bambungela bafuna kuva ngeluhambo lwakhe. Wabacocela ngaloko lakubonile, lakuvile nalakudlile. Wabese uvula sikhwama sakhe kute kutsi abakhombise tipho takhe. Bantfu bajabula kakhulu ngekutfola lomcebo.

Ngemusa walabanye kanye nekuba nesibindzi kwaNkanyezi, ummango wabuye futsi wawutfola umbala wawo, ingoma kanye nemdanso etimphilweni tabo. Ngako-ke umoya wekubungata wabuyela emmangweni wakaNdlovu.



