UNtombi ubamba isigebengu

Cleopatra Mhlanga

Izinto ezikhazimulayo ziheha izinyoni okuthiwa ama-Indian mynah.

“Ngubani othathe umqhele wami?” kubuza umama. “Ngiwushiye lapha, kepha awusekho.”

UNtombi wasiza umama ukuthungatha umqhele. Kepha abawutholanga.

“Ngubani othathe imali yami?” kubuza ubaba ekhathazekile. “Ngishiye uhlamvu lwemali lapha, kepha alusekho.”

UNtombi wasiza ubaba ukuthungatha uhlamvu lwemali yonke indawo. Kepha abalutholanga.

“Ngubani othathe imedali yami?” kubuza ubhuti. “Ngiyishiye ilenga lapha, kepha ayisekho.”

UNtombi wasiza ubhuti ukucinga imedali. Kepha abayitholanga.

“Ngubani othathe icici lami?” kubuza usisi. “Ngilishiye lapha izolo ntambama, kepha alisekho.”

UNtombi wasiza usisi ukucinga icici yonke indawo. Kepha abalitholanga.

Wonke umuntu wayekhathazekile.

Ubaba wabiza amaphoyisa.

Afika abheka yonke indawo. Awatholanga lutho.

“Asizitholi izinto ezilahlekile. Nesigebengu asisitholi. Abantu bashiya ubufakazi. Kepha azikho izigxivizo zeminwe futhi azikho izinyathelo,” kusho amaphoyisa.

“Ngizozithola izinto ezilahlekile. Nesigebengu ngizosithola,” kusho uNtombi.

Wazungeleza ebheka izinto ezilahlekile. Akatholanga lutho.

Wabe esebheka ngefasitela, wasibona isigebengu!

“Nasiya isigebengu,” kusho uNtombi, ekhomba ngefasitela.

Emthini oseduze kuhlezi inyoni. Kunezinto ezikhazimulayo esidlekeni sayo.

“Bekuyinyoni! Yingakho zazingekho izigxivizo zeminwe noma izinyathelo!” kusho amaphoyisa. “Usebenzile, ntombazana!”

"Wenze kahle, Ntombi!" basho bonke ngentokozo. "Usibambile isigebengu!"