



# Busuku lobungalaleki



**Gabogaisane Sikhipa**





Lamuhla ebusuku, Nyanga uloku uyagucuka  
uyaphendvuka embhedzeni.

Kwentenjani? Abefuna kuvuka, kepha  
kusekhatsi nebusuku. Utakwentani, futsi  
utawuyaphi uma avuka?





Nyanga uhlala namake wakhe LaBhiya esigodzini saseBhevula.

Nyanga abecabanga ngelibito lakhe kulamalanga. Abefuna kwati kutsi ulitfole njani libito lakhe. Angabuta make wakhe? Ngabe make wakhe utawutfukutsela? Watibuta imibuto leminyenti.



“Kusasa, kumele sivuke ekuseni kakhulu, ngikupheleketela esigodzini saseMalelane uyawufundzela kuba yinyanga,” kusho LaBhiya angamoyiteli.

Nyanga kwamphatsa kabi kuva lamagama. Watibona aphakatsi kwentfutfu yemitsi yesintfu.





“Ngiyacela, make. Angifuni kuba yinyanga. Ngisemncane kakhulu. Angifuni kusebenta ngemitsi. Ngifuna kuba ngumhlengi.”



“Ungulokhetsiwe wami, ngako utawuba yinyanga. Ngikubite ngaNyanga ngilungiselela lelilanga leli. Cala ulungise njengobe sesitawuhamba.”





Phakatsi kwebusuku, wavuka. Wabuka  
likamelo lakhe ngelutsandvo. Utawuba  
senkingeni ngaloko lafuna kukwenta?  
Utawukhumbula make wakhe yini?



*Shwa, shwa, shwa!* Siva umsindvo.  
NguNyanga aphuma endlini. Wetama  
kungavakali. Kumnyama futsi akafuni  
kubanga umsindvo. Uma utawutsintsa intfo,  
kutawuvakala umsindvo!







Endleleni, Nyanga wabona kuvela indvodza. Waba nekwesaba, wabhaca etihlahleni. Bekunemsindvo, *Fohlo! Fohlo!* Indvodza yamemeta: “Ngubani loyo?”

“Ngimi, babe,” kuphendvula Nyanga.

“Uyaphi, mfana? Kusekhatsi nebusuku. Awutesabi tinyamatane? Libito lami nginguMabulala, khuluma masinyane, kusebusuku.”



“Libito lami nginguNyanga, ngibuya  
eBhevula. Ngibalekela make. Ufuna ngibe  
yinyanga, mine angifuni. Ngicela ungisite!”





“Suka lapha! Nine bantswana banyalo ninemkhuba lomubi. Anibalaleli batali benu. Buka mine, nami ngiyinyanga. Ngivumelana namake wakho. Akukho lokubi uma uyinyanga,” kusho lendvodza itfukutsele.



Nyanga wahamba adzabukile  
angakasitakali. Utakwentani nyalo? Nyanga  
weva imisindvo yasebusuku letfusako. Uma  
ngabe libhubesi? Nome jakalasi?





Umsindvo *shwa, shwa, shwa*, ngalesikhatsi Nyanga ahamba ebusuku. Wetfukile futsi uyacalata. Inhlitiyo yakhe ishayela etulu. Awu! Kungenteka kushaya kwenhlitiyo yakhe kuyevakala.

Nyanga wabona kuvela umuntfu lomsikati lomudze. Wacalata kepha besingasekho sikhatsi sekubaleka.

“Uyaphi, mfana? Libito lami nginguMadlinyama. Khuluma, ngilalele.”



“Libito lami nginguNyanga, ngibuya  
eBhevula. Ngibalekela make. Ufuna ngibe  
yinyanga, mine angifuni. Ngicela ungisite!”





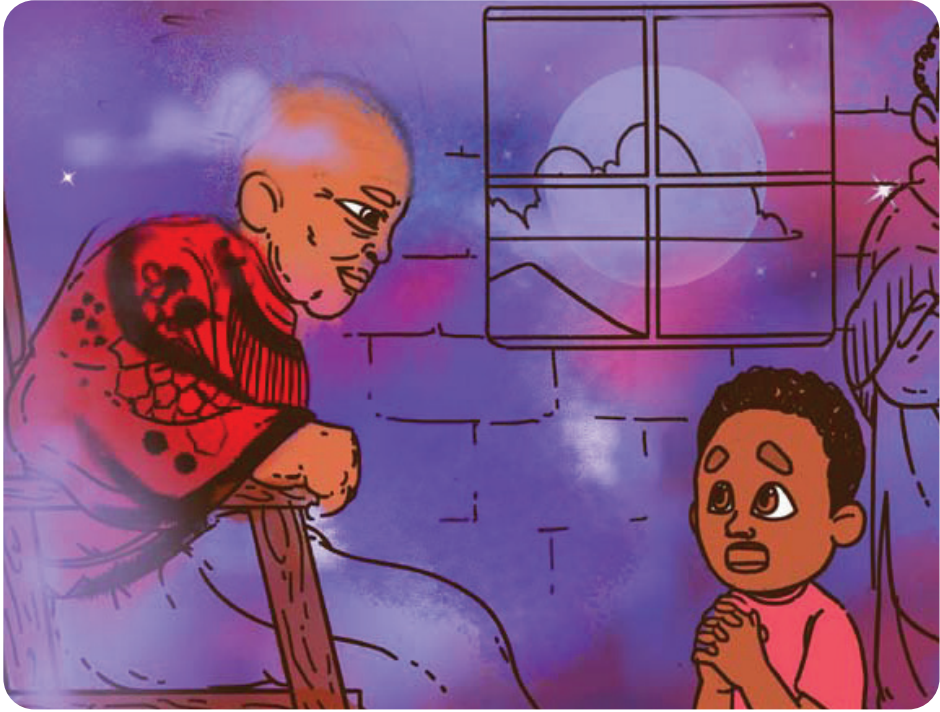
“Kubi kubalekela batali,” kusho lomuntfu lomsikati. Nyanga wacala kukhala. Madlingama wameluleka kutsi aye ayewutfola lusito enkhosini, Bheni wasePholani. Kuyashiwo kutsi utsandza futsi uvikela bantfwana. Nyanga abejabule kakhulu kuva loku.



Nyanga wakhuphuka intsaba. Uya enkhosini  
Bheni yasePholani. Unelitsemba kutsi  
sewutawutfola lusito. Tinyawo takhe tilula,  
futsi nyalo angahamba masinyane.





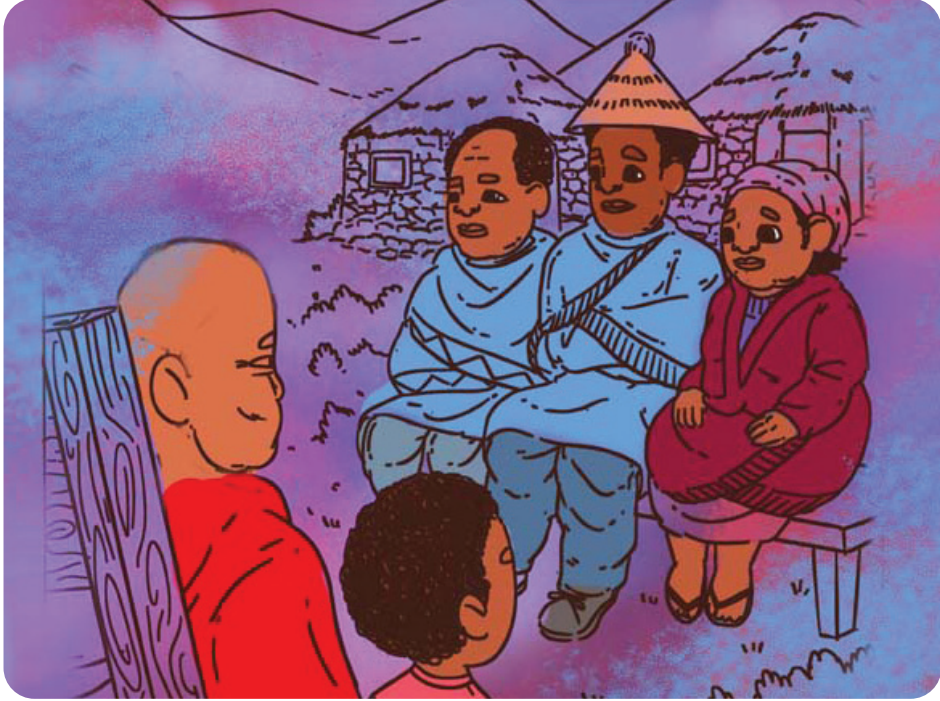


Ngephandle kwendlu yenkhosi, Nyanga watfola indvodza lendzala lenetinwele letimphunga ihleti. Wacela kubona inkhosi, lomkhulu wamngenisisa enkhosini.

Nyanga waguca wacela inkhosi kutsi imsite.



“Libito lami nginguNyanga, ngibuya  
eBhevula. Ngibalekela make. Ufuna ngibe  
yinyanga, mine angifuni. Ngicela ungisite!”





Inkhosi yaya naye ekhaya kubo. Letigodzi letimbili betingakachelelani. Uma bafika ekhabo Nyanga, inkhosi yabita make wakhe kutsi akabuye achaze. Nyanga abejabulile. Wase uva kubitwa libito lakhe.



“Nyanga! Nyanga! Vuka! Sikhatsi sekuya esikolweni. Utawusalela emuva.”  
Bekungumake wakhe ambita.

Uma avula emehlo akhe, wabona kutsi usekhaya. Wajabula kubona kutsi bekumane kuliphupho!

