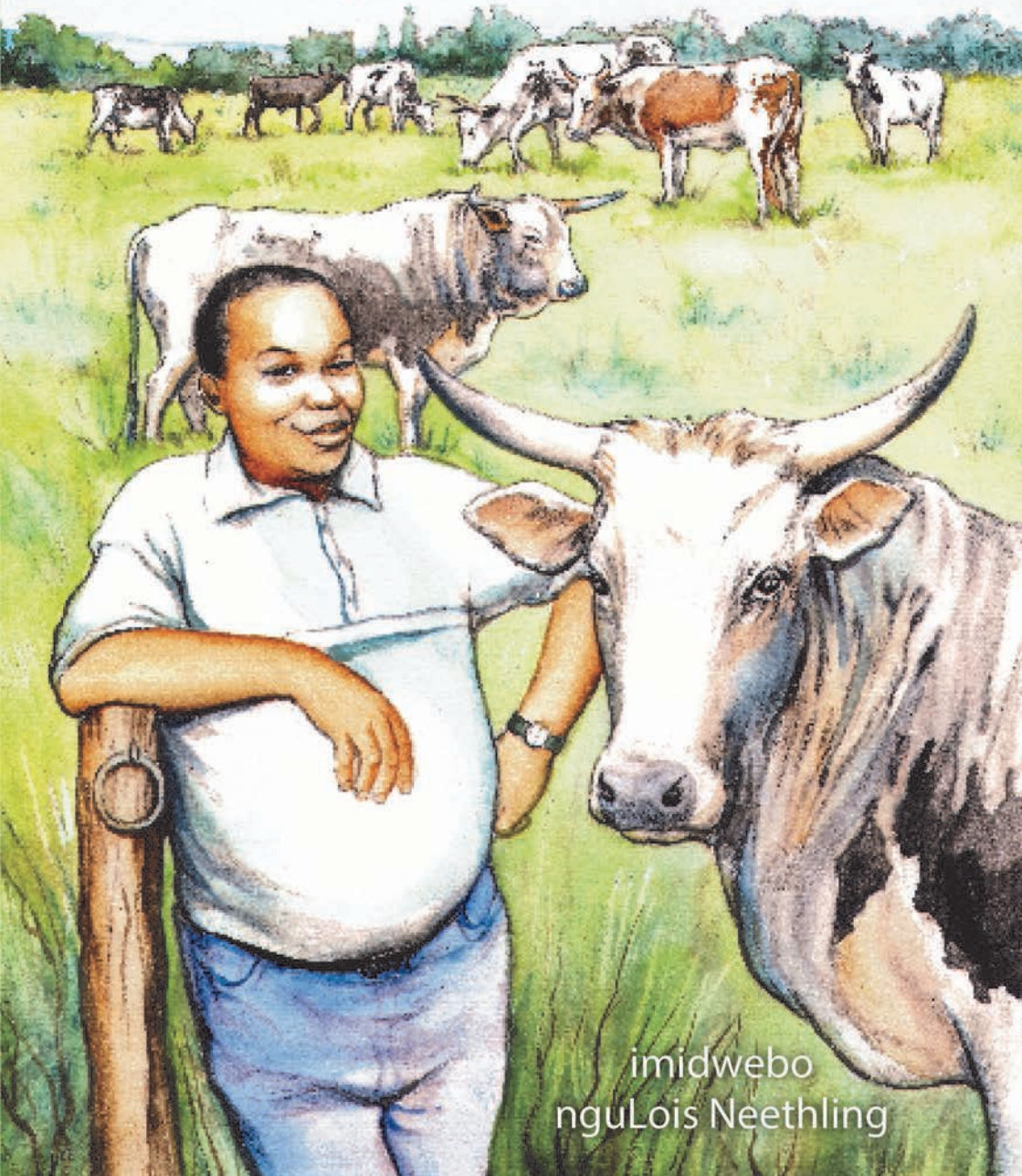


Ilobolo

nguRobert Mchunu



imidwebo
nguLois Neethling

— ISIZULU —

Ilobolo

nguRobert Mchunu

imidwebo nguLois Neethling

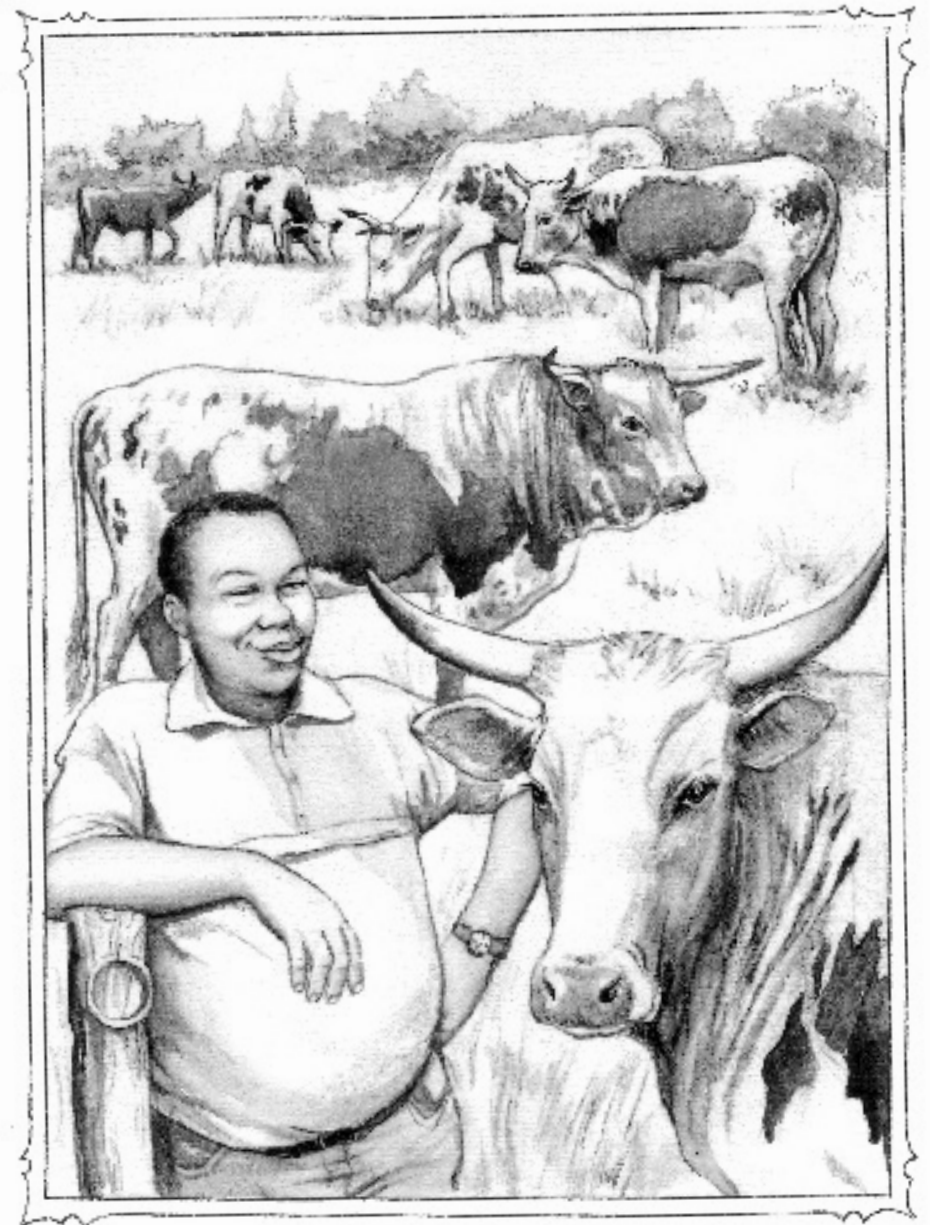


Uthando lokuqala lukaMnumzane Ngubane kwakuzinkomo zakhe. Ayikho into ayeyikhonze ukwedlula izinkomo zakhe. Noma ngabe wayekhuluma ngani, izinkomo zazingasali ngaphandle.

Kwakwala ngisho noma sekuxoxwa ngokulima wayezama ukuthi agcine ekhulume ngezinkomo zakhe. Wayengekho umuntu ongamaziyo eMakhuzeni. Amadodakazi akhe ayazi ukuthi uyise ulindele into yinye kubo: izinkomo.

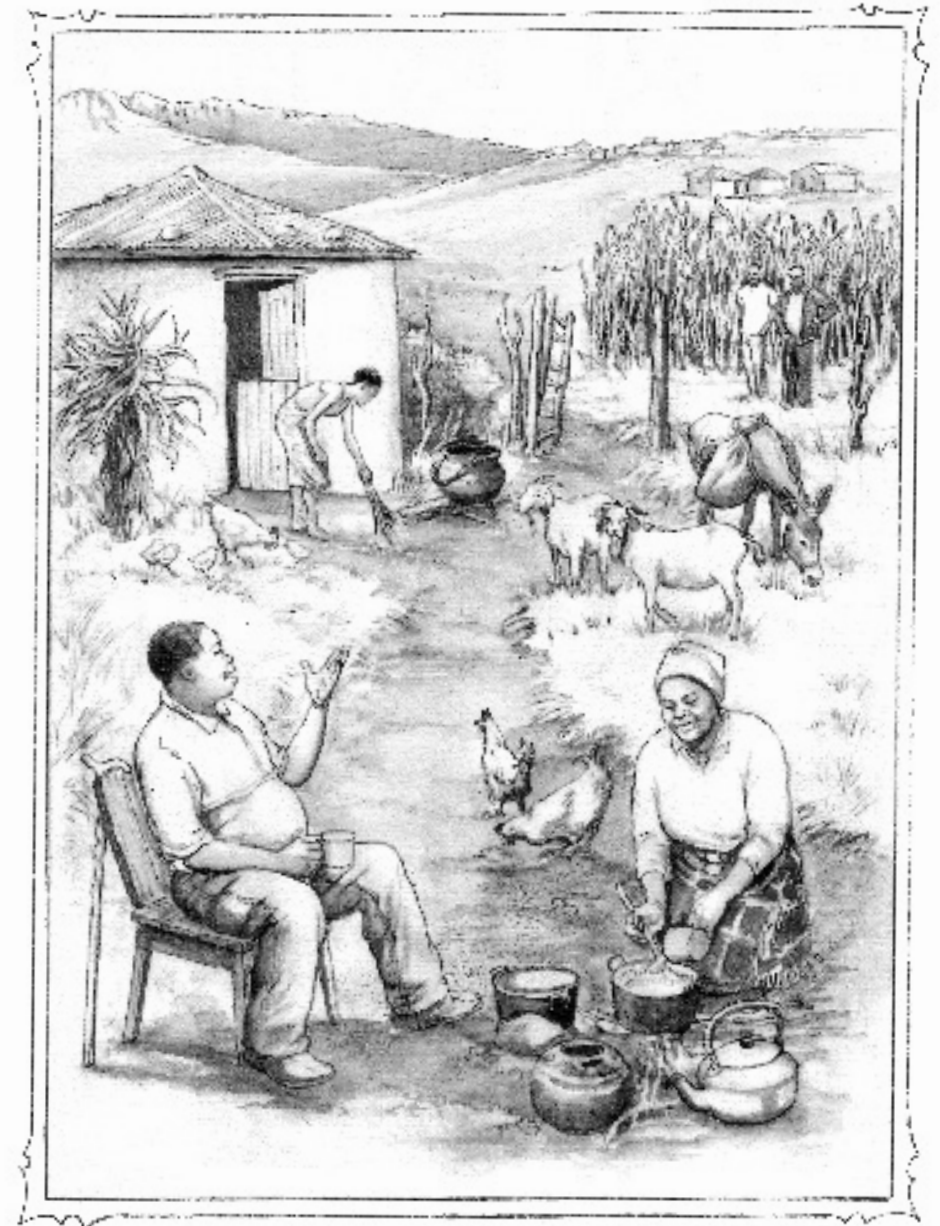
Uma umnumzane ebona izinkomo zakhe zihamba egcekeni, wayezihasha asho izibongo zazo. Zonke zazinezihasha zazo, kwakukhona ezinkabini zakhe oHawukani, oFelokwakhe, oThekwini, oJamludi, oMnyamana, oManjunju nezinye.

Kepha injabulo kamnumzane Ngubane yayingasenkulu ngoba izinkomo zakhe eziningi zase zantshontshwa amasela. Ayezintshontsha ngokushiyana.



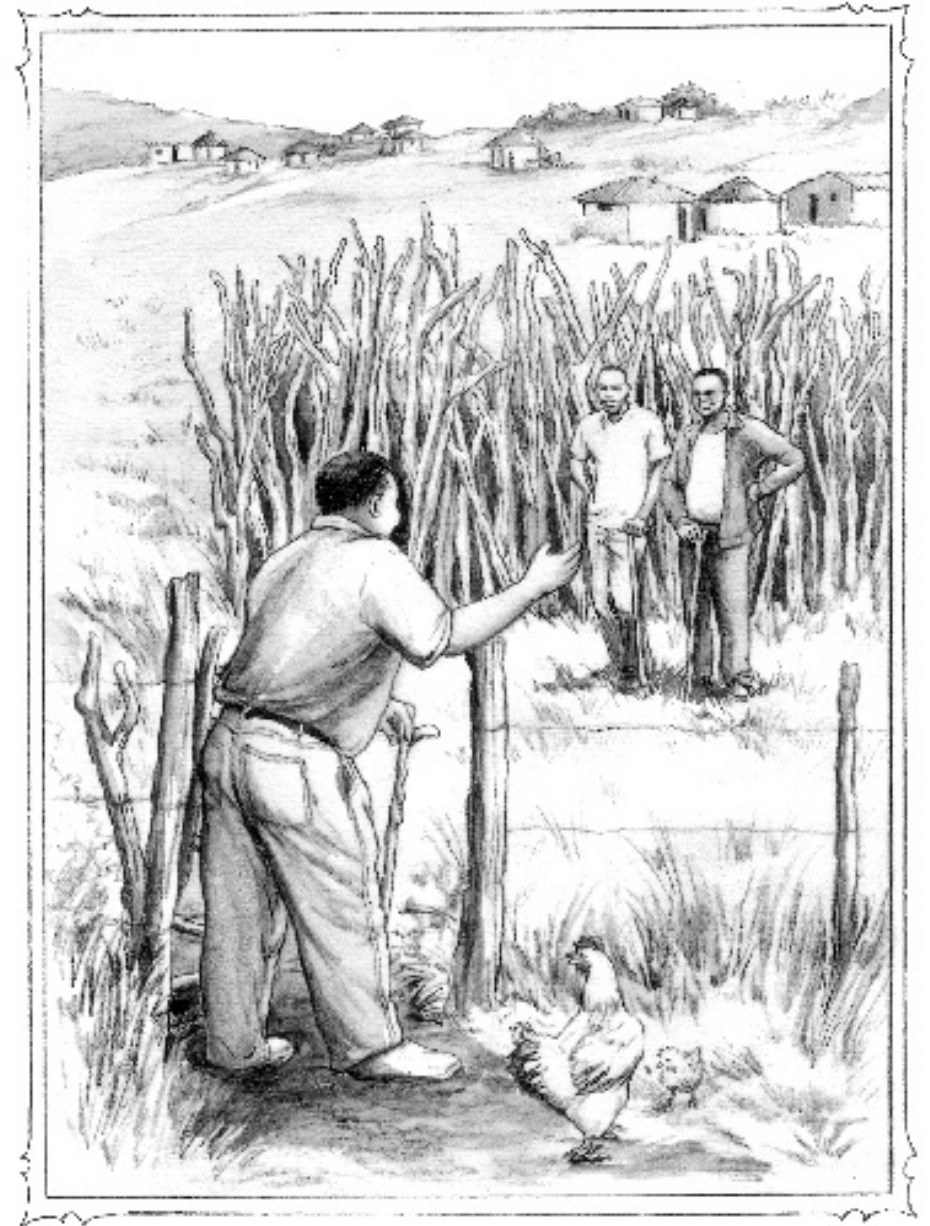
Ngelinye ilanga ekuseni, uNgubane wayezihlalele ephumulile kwakhe. Engazelele wezwa kukhuleka umuntu esangweni ethi, " Eh! Baba Mbomvu. Siyakhuleka ekhaya. Thina bakwaMhlongo, oNjomane sizocela isihlobo esihle."

UNgubane wamangala. Wayengalindele ukuthi omunye wabantwana bakhe wayesengalotsholwa. "Nivelaphi bo?" kubuza uNgubane, sakunengeka efihla nenjabulo yakhe.



"Sivela kwaNjomane kaMgabhi kwaBuhlebuyeza,"
kuphendula izwi ngasesibayeni.

Wathatha induku yakhe waphuma. Wema wabuka
ngasesangweni. Wabona amadoda amabili
emile nezinduku zawo ngasesibayeni. Wathatha
amagxathi ambalwa wasondela kuwo lamadoda
ayezolobola. Wayethokozile ukuwabona.



"Lalelani lapha, uma niqinisile ukuthi nizocela ubuhlobo kuleli khaya hambani nibuye nezinkomo enizolobola ngazo," kusho uNgubane.

UNgubane wababuka behamba. Wamamatheka wathi kumkakhe, "Uyabona nkosikazi kuyangijabulisa lokhu okuzokwenzeka kuleli khaya namuhla.

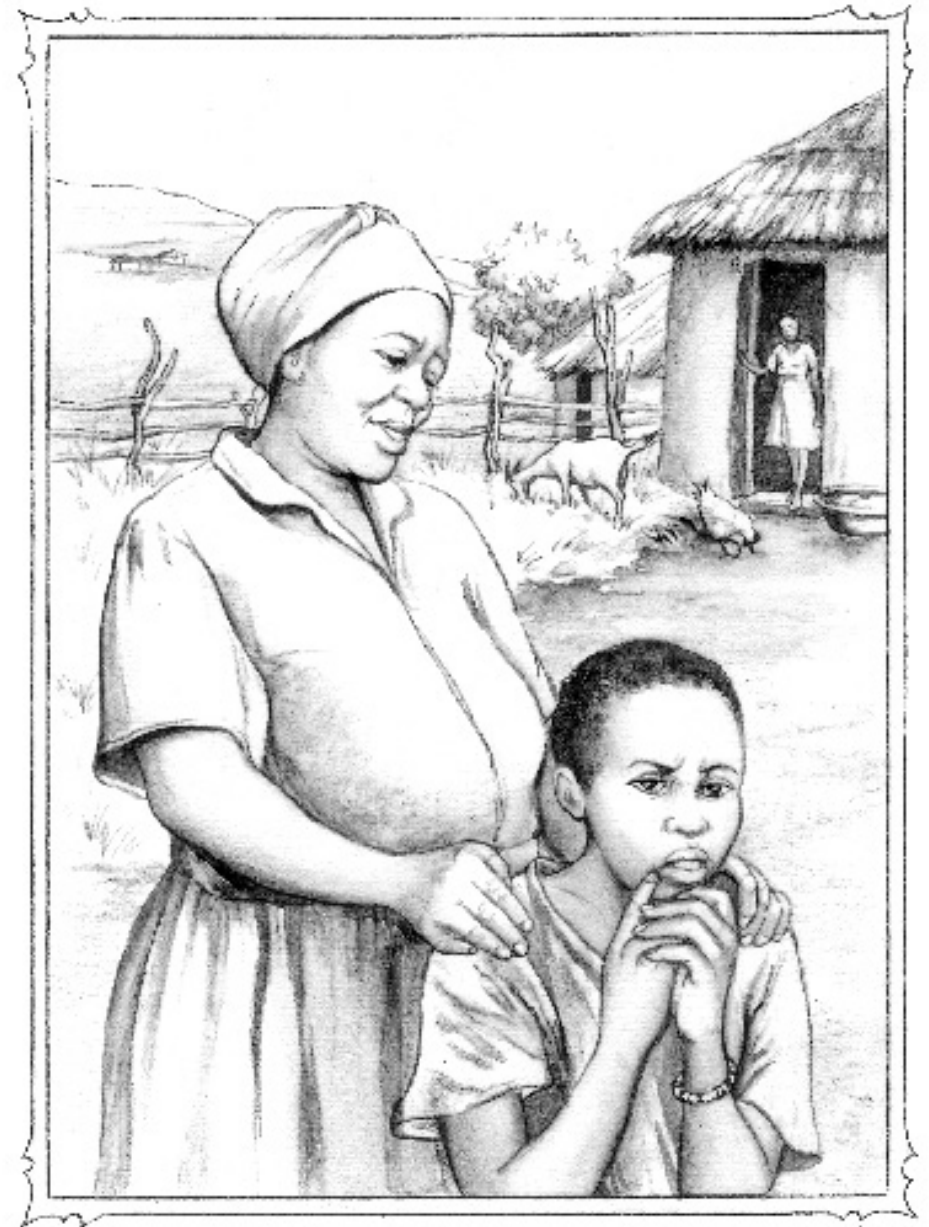
Uma sebengilobolele, ngizohamba nami ngiyoqedela izinkomo ezimbili ezasala mhla ngilobola wena."



Uma uNomusa ezwa lezi zindaba wathi kunina,
“Ngingamane ngife kunokuba ngishade
naloya mfana wakaMhlongo! Abantu bathi
abakwaMhlongo abathembekile.”

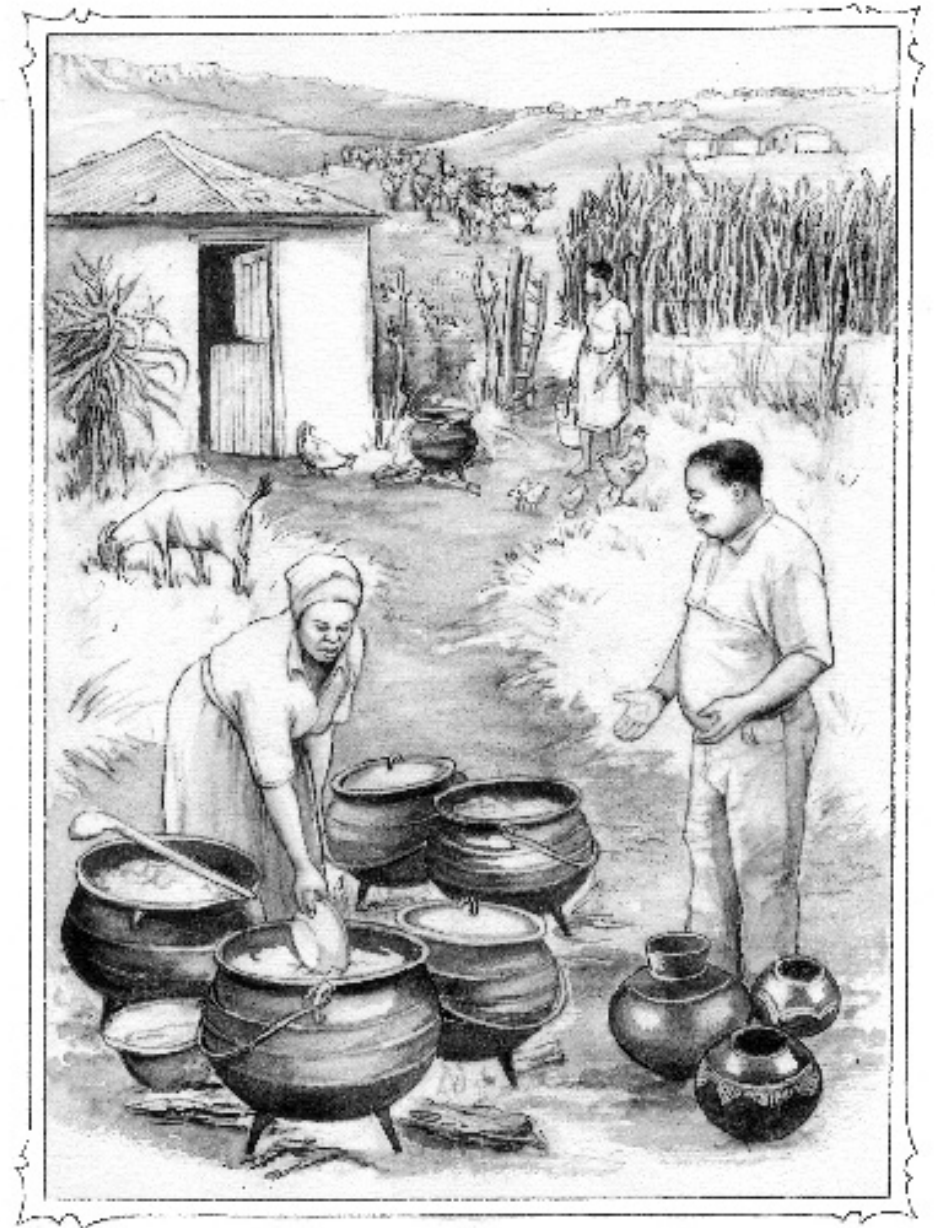
“Mntanami, angithandi lolu daba lukwenze
sengathi uyingane engamhloniphi uyise. Nami
kodwa angimthandi loya mfana.

Angithi kuthiwa akasebenzi? Uzithathaphi pho
lezi zinkomo azosilobolela ngazo?” kuphendula
uMaNtombela.



Sekudlule isonto uMnu. Ngubane wayehamba eziculela. Wayethokozile azi ukuthi izinkomo ziyalethwa. Weza wazobuza uMaNtombela ukuthi sebelungiselwe na abakhwenyana.

UMaNtombela wathi, "Yebo, utshwala bulungile kanti nenkukhu namadombolo sekulungisiwe."



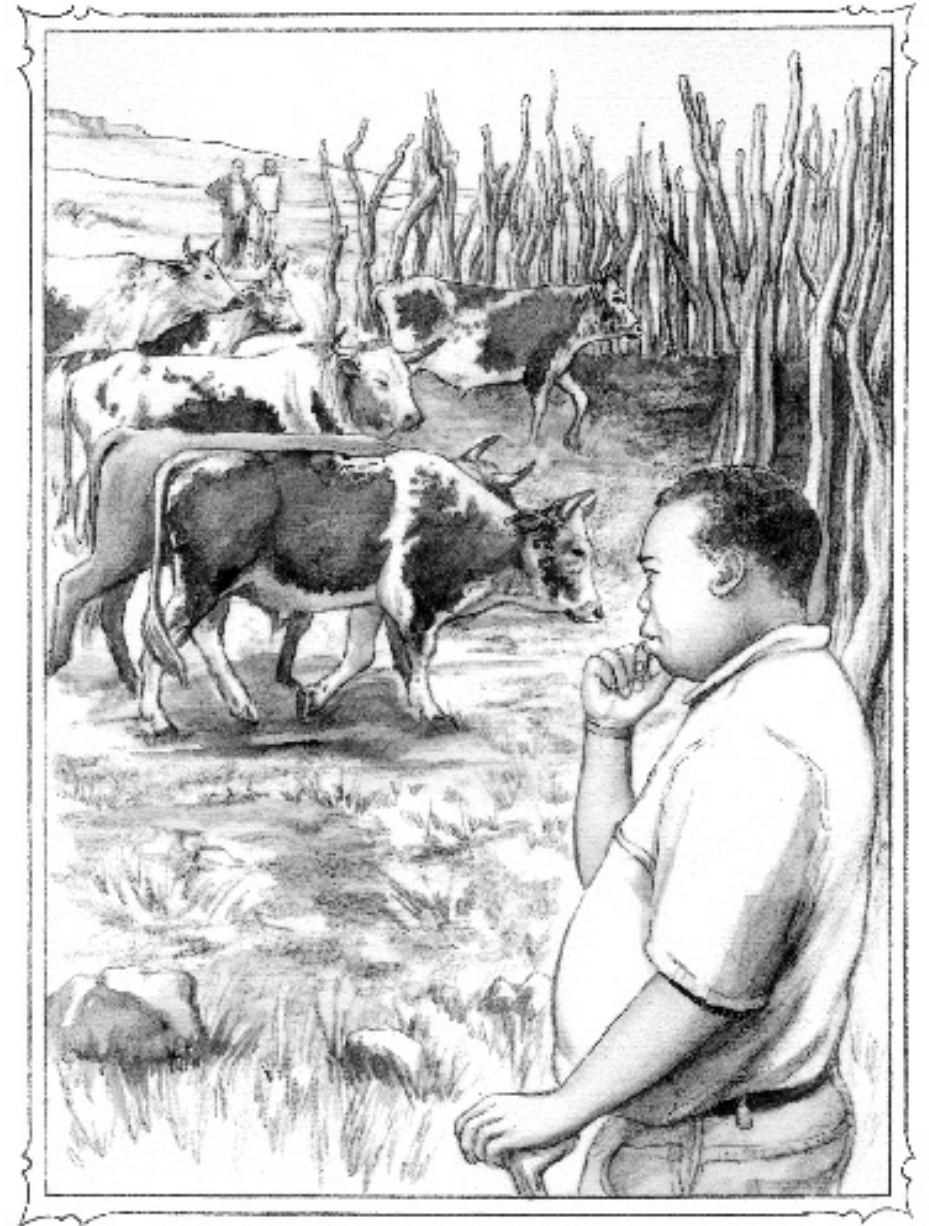
UNgubane wahleka yedwa, ejabule ngezinkomo ezazingena esibayeni sakhe.

Wayazi ukuthi uzohlonishwa endaweni ngoba kwakungeyona into ejwayelekile ukuba intombazane ilotsholwe ngezinkomo eziyishumi nanye.

Izinkomo zazilokhu zisondela.

Uma sezisesangweni uNgubane waqala wahlina.

Kukhona okungalungile. Izinkomo zaqonda ngqo esibayeni. Mamo! Zazisazi lesi sibaya!

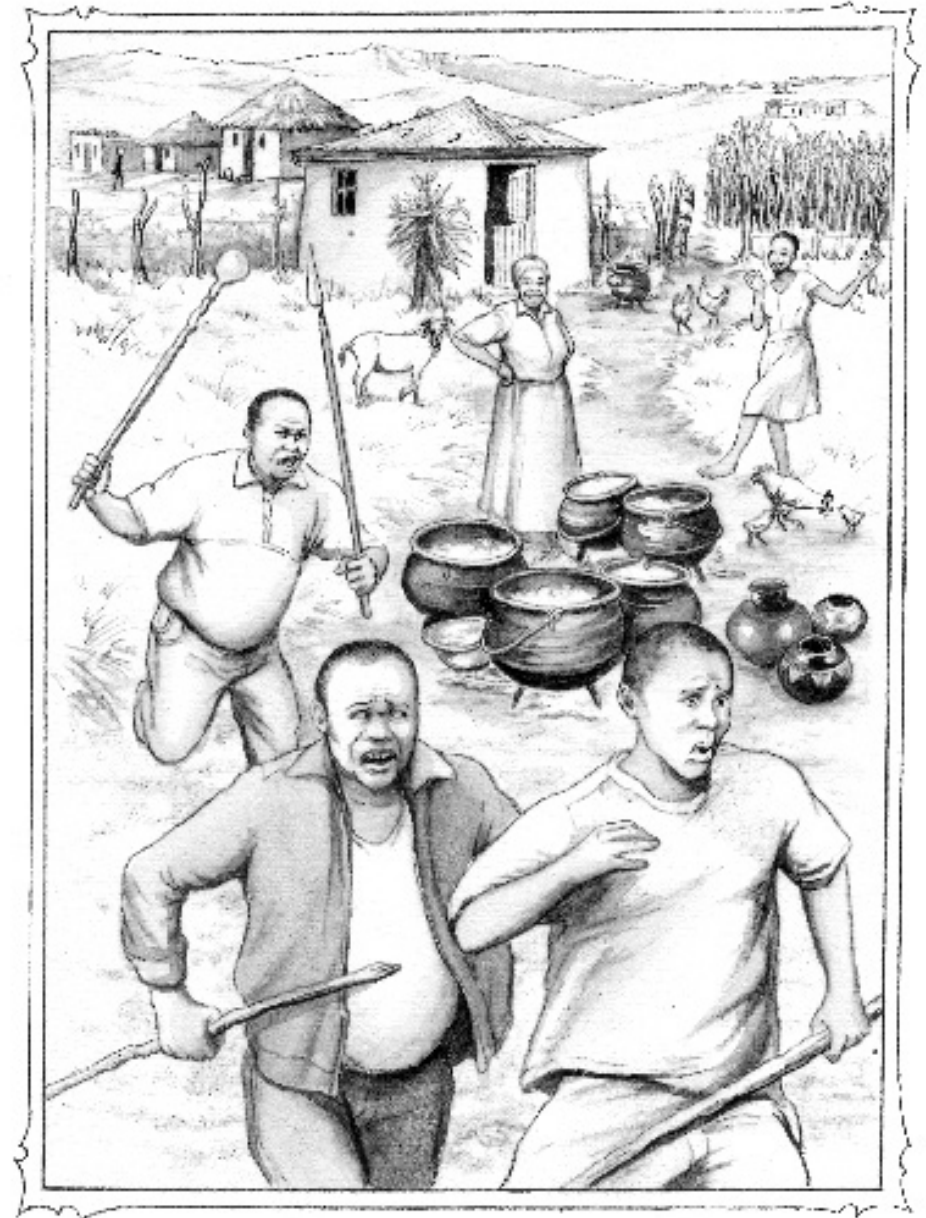


UNgubane wasondela esibayeni. Wazibhekisisa lezi zinkomo. Wanyukubala. Wayezazi lezi zinkomo!

Nango uMayini! Nango noNtozakhe!
Waphenduka ngokushesha waqonda endlini elande umkhonto nesagila yakhe.

UNomusa noMaNtombela bezwa ukumemeza kwentukuthelo. Baphuthuma ukuyobheka ngaphandle babona uNgubane exosha abakhongi, abakhongi bagcwala isiganga bebaleka, "Masela! Bakhohlisi! Mahumusha! Ningaphinde nisondele nje kulo muzi!"

Iyaphela



Ukubonga

Sibonga kulaba abalandelayo abasiza ekuhloleni amaphutha alencwadi:

Nonhlanhla Magubane, Simphiwe Ncayiyana, Joyce Shabalala noSandra Land.

Mayelana nombhali



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Ilobolo

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