

Uthando luyefana

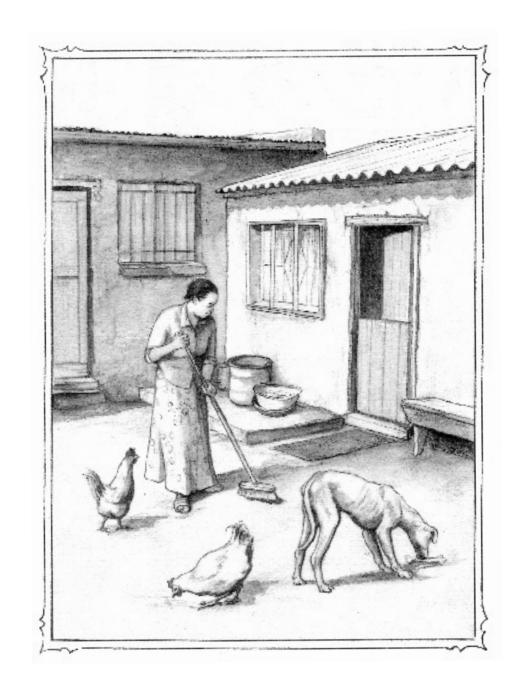
nguSizakele Gumede imidwebo nguLois Neethling

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UMaKhumalo wayeneminyaka engamashumi amane. Wayenabantwana ababili, umfana oneminyaka elishumi nane, uNqubeko, nentombazane eneminyaka elishumi nambili, uGugulethu.

Wayengakaze afuye isilwane futhi engasiboni isidingo sokuba angasifuya. Esakhula uMaKhumalo, amakati ayaziwa njengezilwane ezinamagqubu futhi ezilanda inyoka ehlathini ziyilethe ekhaya.

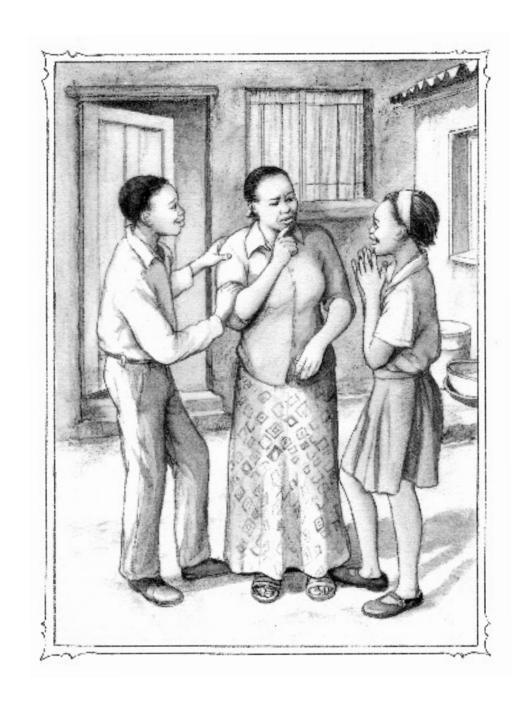
UMaKhumalo wayazi izinja kuphela, kanti nazo zazingatotoswa, eqinisweni zazinganakwa, zazihlala nje egcekeni zidle izinsalela. Zazinomsebenzi owodwa kuphela wokugada ikhaya.



Njalo uma abantwana bakhe becela ukufuya isilwane, uMaKhumalo wayelandula. Bamuncenga befuna ukufuya umdlwane, nalapho befuna ukufuya inyoni baphinda futhi sebefuna ukufuya unogwaja kepha uMaKhumalo wayengafuni nakuzwa.

Ngelinye ilanga indodakazi yakhe, uGugulethu wafika ekhaya ebuya esikoleni ethokozile wathi, "Ikati lakwamakhelwane lephuke imithinyane emithathu, ngiyibonile, Mama. Ngiyacela bandla, Mama, sifuye ikati, bathe bazosinika elilodwa."

Indodana yakhe, uNqubeko, nayo yamuncenga, "Ngiyacela, Mama. Angeke ngiphinde ngicele okunye. Sengikhulile manje, Mama, ngiyakwazi engikushoyo. Vuma bandla Mama."



UMaKhumalo wazizwa engaphansi kwengcindezi, wagcina evumile.

Eqala ukulibona ikatshana linamehlwana akhazimulayo waba nemizwa angayiqondi. Uma elibuka wabona isidalwa esihle nesimsulwa. Wavele wathi, "Lihle, ngicela niliphathe kahle."

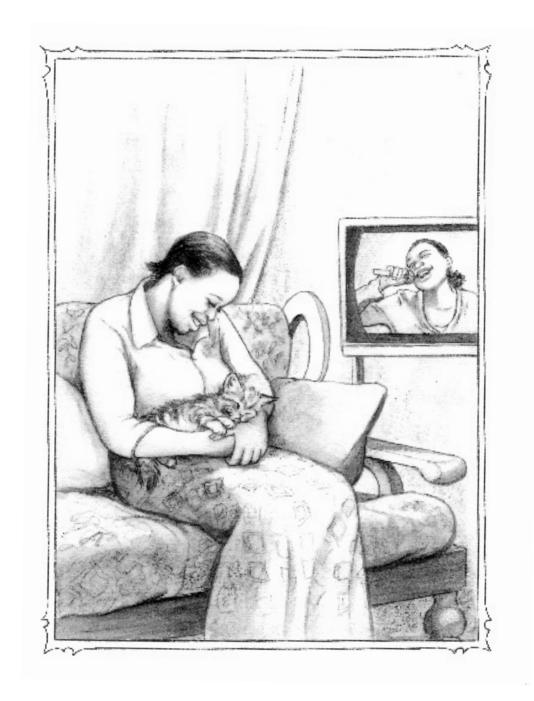
Ngalelo langa abantwana babekade befunde ngo-Albert Einstein, usosayensi odumile. "Mama, umakhelwane uthe leli kati ngeleduna, masiliqambe ukuthi ngu-Albert," kuphawula abantwana.



Kwakungumsebenzi omkhulu ukujwayela ukuphila nekati. Kwacaca ukuthi kuyefana nokuba nosana. Ikati liyalamba, liyakhala, lidinga ukuphathwa nokuthandwa.

Ngemva kwezinyanga ezimbalwa uMaKhumalo wayesemjwayele u-Albert. Uma ebuya emsebenzini wayebheka ikati kuqala. Uma ebuka iTV wayehlala no-Albert ambeke ethangeni, amphulaze futhi adlale naye.

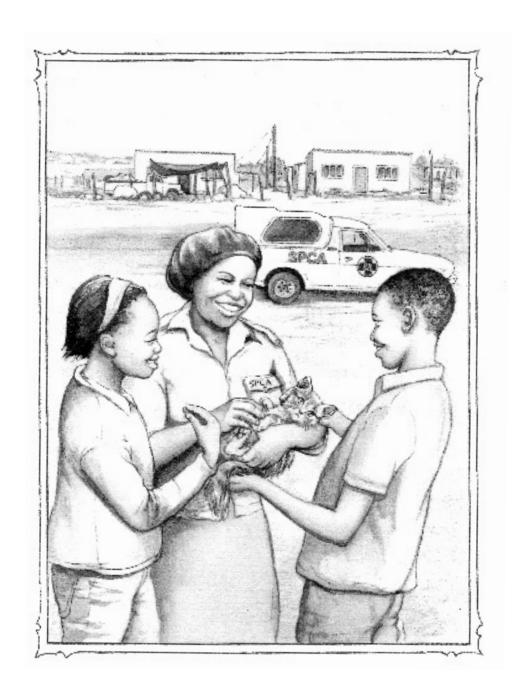
Abantwana bamangala kakhulu uma bebona umama wabo ethanda kangaka ikati. Bamngcona, "Mama kufanele usibonge! Awukaze ucabange ukuthi ungaba nesilwane kanti manje usunaso!"



Ngamhla kufike umahambanendlwane kahulumeni bahambisa u-Albert ukuba ayogoma.

"U-Albert yigama elingajwayelekile kwabesifazane!" kusho umhlengikazi wezilwane, emamatheka.

U-Albert wayeseba ngu-Albertina.



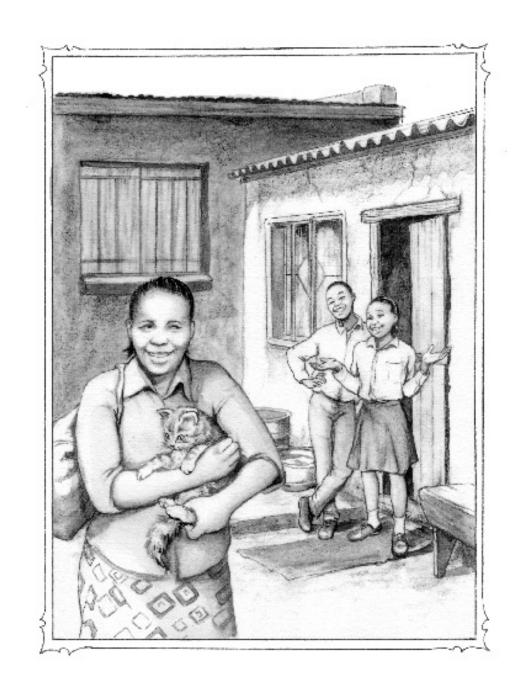
 $UMaKhumalo\ wayengasahlukani\ no\text{-}Albertina.$

Wayesehamba naye noma evakashela abangani.

Wayehamba naye noma eya edolobheni.

Wayehamba naye noma eyaphi.

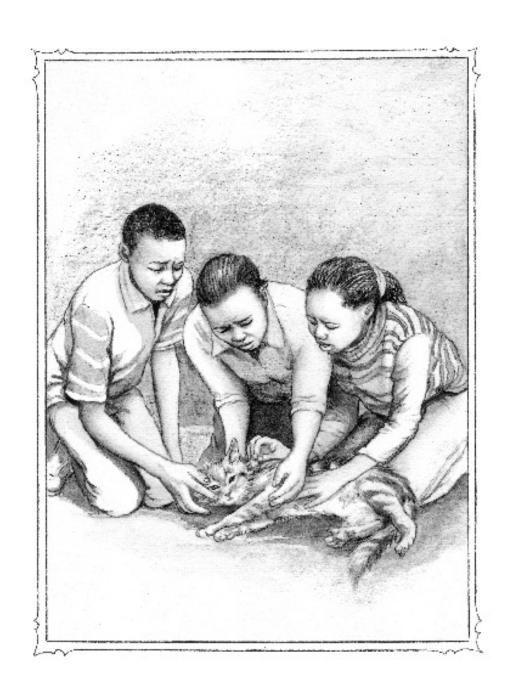
Abantwana baqala ukumngcona uMaKhumalo, "Mama, manje ikati seliyasedlula!"



Sekudlule iminyaka, kwakungaphambi kokuvulwa kwezikole ngoJanuwari, baqaphela ukuthi u-Albertina wayengasahlahlambile.

Uma bemthinta babona ukuthi uyagula, futhi unesimila emqaleni.

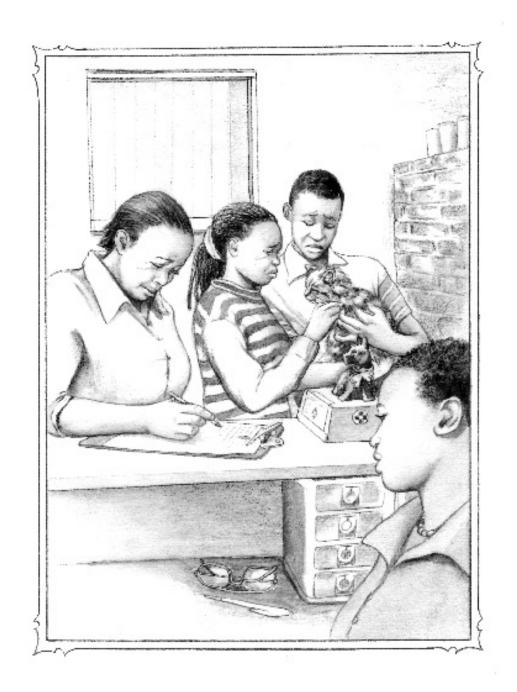
Bobabili abantwana babezoya esikoleni sabahlala ngaphakathi ngalowo nyaka. UMaKhumalo wayazi ukuthi wayengeke akwazi ukunakekela u-Albertina eyedwa futhi akasoze aba namandla okumusa kodokotela bezilwane ababizayo.



Wanquma ukuba isithandwa sakhe kwakufanele asise kwa-SPCA eShowe, lokhu kwabanga inhliziyo ebuhlungu. Abantwana babengakuqondi lokhu, kepha uMaKhumalo yena wayazi kahle.

Kwathi ukuba bafike laphaya, abasebenzi bakwa-SPCA banikeza uMaKhamalo amaphepha ukuba awasayine ukuze anikezele ngo-Albertina ngokusemthethweni. Wawasayina lamaphepha egcwele izinyembezi emehlweni. Wayedangele.

Eminyakeni engamashumi amabili edlule uMaKhumalo wayehlala lapha eShowe.
Eminyakeni engamashumi amabili edlule kwakukuyo le ndawo uMaKhumalo washonelwa ngumntwana.

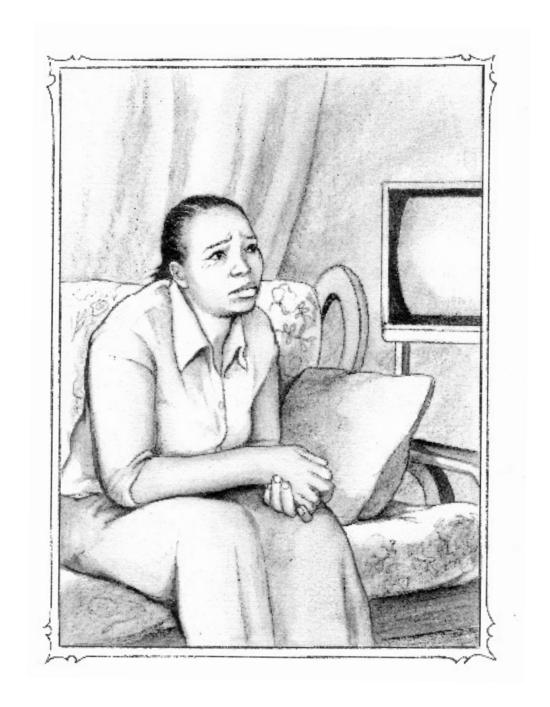


Kwacaca kuMaKhumalo ukuthi umuntu angasithanda okwempela isilwane.

Wafunda ukuthi uthando luyefana noma kungaba uthanda isilwane noma uthanda umuntu. Kokubili kuyizidalwa eziphilayo.

"Uthando luyefana," washo maqede wagcwala izinyembezi emehlweni.

Iyaphela



Ukubonga

Sibonga kulaba abalandelayo abasiza ekuhloleni amaphutha alencwadi:

Nonhlanhla Magubane, Simphiwe Ncayiyana, Joyce Shabalala noSandra Land.

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Mayelana nombhali



USizakele Gumede uhlala eThekwini, KwaZulu-Natal. Ngaphambilini wayewuthisha efundisa ezikoleni. Ungumama wabantwana ababili asebengena ebudaleni. Uyathanda ukugqugquzela abanye ukuba banothise izimpilo zabo, ngokwenza izinto abangazijwayele nezinto ezintsha. Uthi ziningi izifundo ezingafundwa kulokhu. Kule ndatshana usixoxela ngenye yezinto ayengazijwayele kodwa wazenza, lokho kwayishintsha ngokuphelele indlela abuka ngayo izinto empilweni.

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