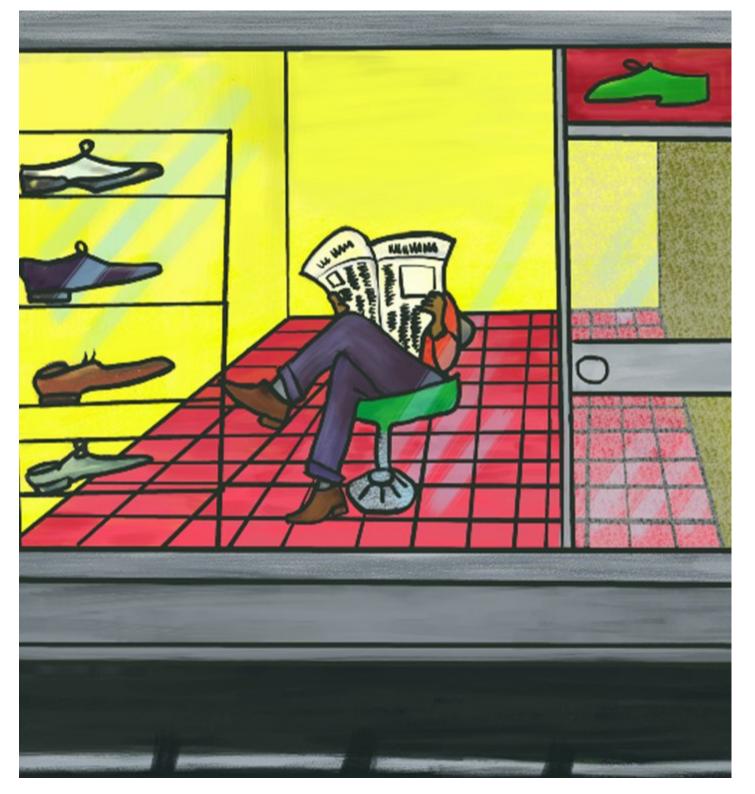




## **Life of Shoes**

**Author:** Nozuko Mkizwana **Illustrator:** Nozuko Mkizwana



In a far away town, there was a smart and expensive shoe shop.

This is the town in which I was born.



Many people came to this shoe shop, but few could afford to buy the fancy footwear.

One day, a rich man with big feet visited the shop.



He put his money on the shop counter.

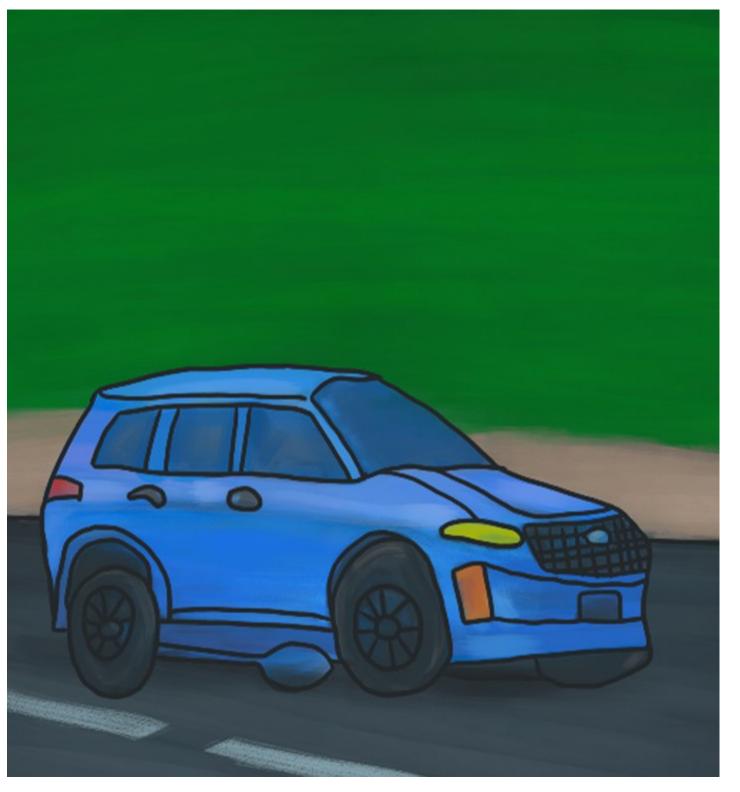
Then, with his hands in his pockets, he walked up and down looking at the shoes.



As he came closer, I held my breath and froze.

He stretched out his hands and grabbed me.

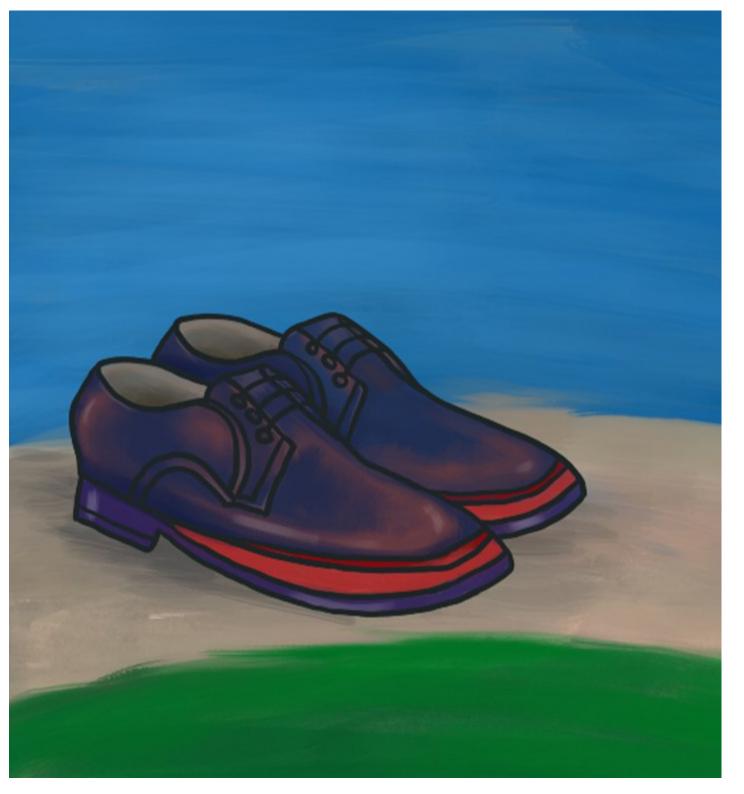
He sat down and put me on his feet.



He had huge feet, and the smell nearly suffocated me!

I was packed into a box.

We drove home, and he put me in a cupboard.



He wore me every day.

I made him smart and he walked with confidence.

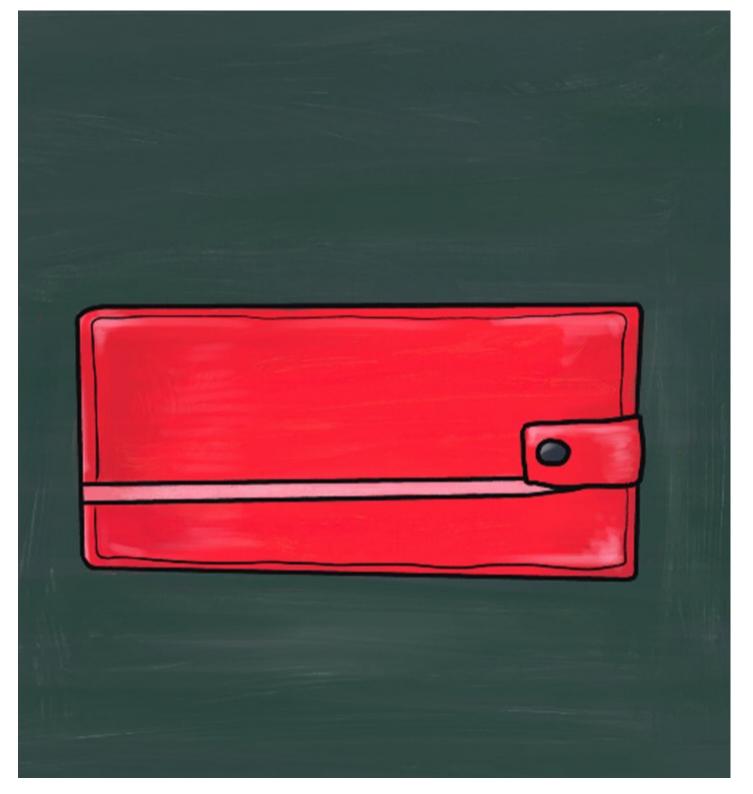
I had a hard life. He was always lazy about washing his feet.



In return, sometimes
I pinched him, making
him limp.

Eventually, I became old and broken, with scars and cracks.

He put me outside, next to the rubbish bin.



Someone picked me up for recycling, and took me to a leather workshop.

At the workshop I was made into a shiny new wallet!

I began a new life.



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# **Life of Shoes** (English)

A story from the perspective of shoes. (This story was originally created at a storybook development workshop with 22 educators, in February 2019, in partnership with the British Council and Department of Basic Education, South Africa).

This is a Level 3 book for children who are ready to read on their own.



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