

## Letter to mum

Ursula Nafula  
English

Mother was finishing packing  
her clothes in a small bag.





As she went out the door, she hugged me and said, “Bye for now.”

“Where are you going, mum?” I  
looked up at her as I asked.





I started to cry wanting to follow her but dad lifted me up on his shoulder.

Dad said, "Your mother is going to the hospital to have a baby."



When I heard “baby” I stopped crying and looked at him.  
“Why is she going to get the baby from the hospital?” I asked him.







Dad sat me on a small chair and said, "I will tell you why she is going to get the baby from the hospital."



I listened keenly to him as he explained although I didn't quite understand why she wasn't having the baby at home. When dad finished explaining, I asked, "Will she still love me when she comes back with the other baby?"



My dad held me close and said,  
“We will always love you.”

“Can I write a letter to her while she is there?” I asked dad.



That evening, I began to write a letter to mum.



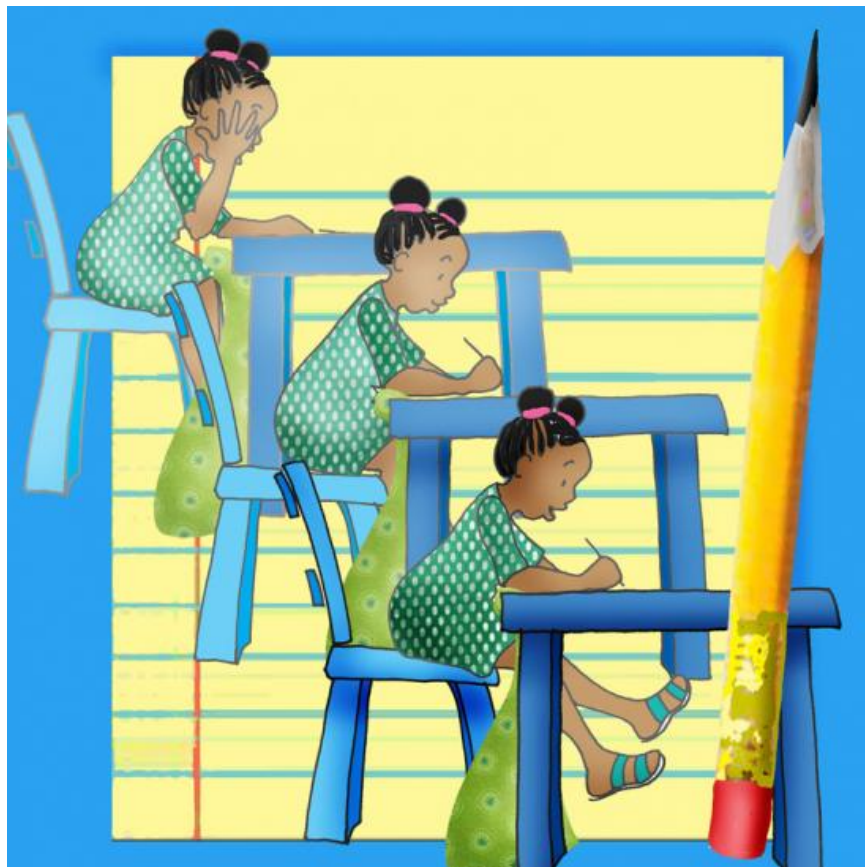


I tore a paper from my exercise book and began to write...

“Mummy, mummy, dad said  
that you have gone to bring  
another baby...



...Please hurry up and return home...







...I want you to bring a baby girl, so I can play with her when she grows up...

...You can bring two so one can  
be mine...





...I am waiting for you here  
outside our house."

I folded my letter so I could give it to my father to bring it to mum.

When I woke up the following morning, the letter was gone.



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Writer: Ursula Nafula

Illustration: Catherine Groenewald

Language: English



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