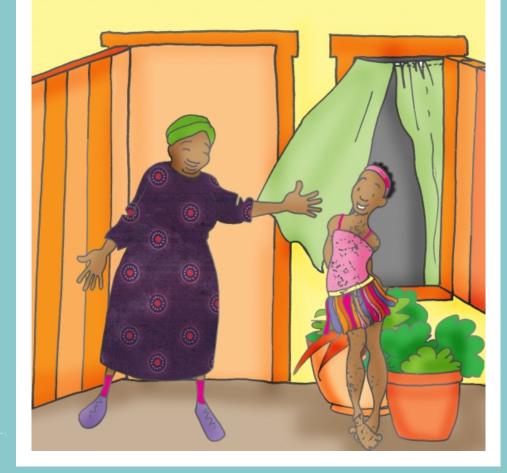
## Nyanya na Msichana Aliyenuka

Southern African Folktale Kiswahili



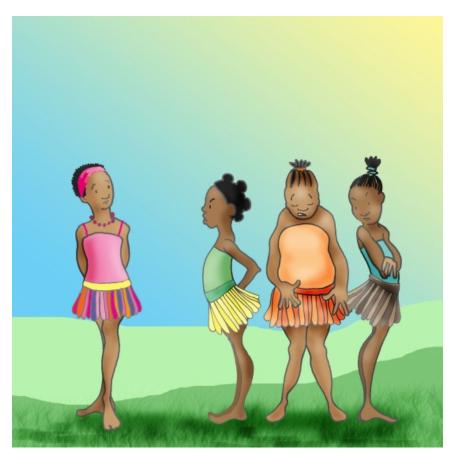




Tasneem alikuwa msichana mrembo mno na nyanya yake alimrehemu sana. Nyanyake alitumia saa nyingi kumtengenezea Tasneem sketi ya kuvutia.

Tasneem alipenda kuivaa ile sketi.





Wasichana wengine wa pale kijijini walimwonea Tasneem wivu kwa ajili ya sketi yake.

Waliona heri waiondoe.

Lakini ni vigumu kuchukuwa nguo ya mtu ikiwa ameivaa.

Asubuhi moja wasichana wale walimwalika Tasneem kwenda nao kuogelea katika mto uliokuwa karibu.

Walizivua nguo zao wakiwa ukingoni ili zisiharibike.

Kisha waliruka ndani ya maji na kurushania maji kwa muda.





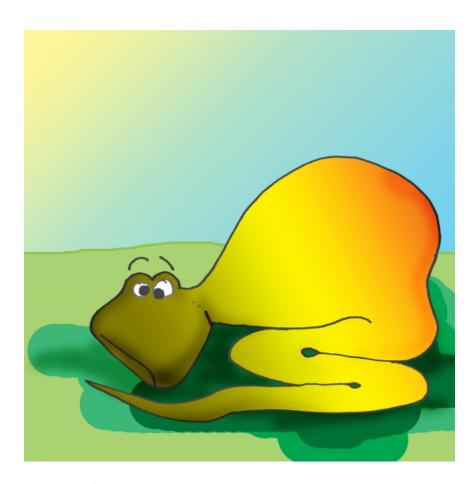
Walikamilisha kuogelea.

Aliyekuwa kiongozi wa wale wasichana wenye wivu, aliirusha sketi ya Tasneem ndani ya maji, karibu na sehemu ambamo kulikuwa na nyoka mkubwa.

Halafu wasichana wale wengine waliondoka na kumuacha Tasneem akilia kando ya mto. Nyoka yule mkubwa alimsikia mtu akilia.

Alitokezea na kumwona Tasneem mrembo.

Aliimeza ile sketi pamoja na Tasneem akiwa mzima.





Kwa bahati nzuri, nyoka yule hakupenda ladha ya sketi.

Aliitema nje pamoja na Tasneem.

Tasneem na sketi yake walilala ukingoni mwa mto wakiwa wamepakwa tope la kunata kutoka tumbo ya nyoka.

Tope hili lilinuka vibaya mno.

Tansneem aliivaa sketi yake iliyonuka na kukimbilia nyumbani kwa wazazi wake.

Aliimba:



Mama, nifungulie mlango, miye nanuka; Mama, nigungulie mlango, miye nanuka; Miye nanuka vibaya mno.

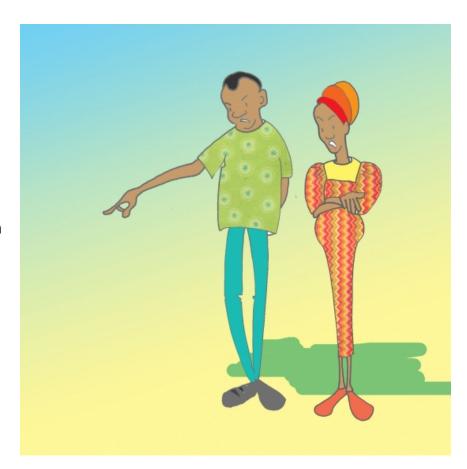
Mama alisikia wimbo wa Tasneem na kukimbia nje ya nyumba.

Alimjibu kwa kuimba:

Nenda mbali, unanuka; Nenda mbali, unanuka; Nenda mbali, unanuka vibaya mno. Tasneem alihuzunika sana.

Alikimbilia nyumba ya mjombake na shangaziye.

Walimsikia akiimba:



Nifungulie mlango, miye nanuka; Nifungulie mlango, miye nanuka; Miye nanuka vibaya sana.

Walikimbia kutoka nyumbani.

Waliimba kwa kumjibu Tasneem kama vile mamake alivyofanya:

Nenda mbali, unanuka, Nenda mbali, unanuka, Nenda mbali, unanuka vibaya mno.



Tasneem alibakisha tu nyumba ya nyanyake kukimbilia.

Moyo wake ulikuwa mzito.

Aliwaza kuwa hakuna aliyetaka kumshughulikia msichana aliyenuka vibaya. Lakini alikosea.

Nyanyake hakumfukuza.

Alimwosha Tasneem, na sketi yake, huku akihakikisha kwamba kila kitu kilinukia vizuri.





Tasneem aliishi na nyanyake kwa miaka mingi.

Siku moja mvulana wa mtu tajiri sana alitaka amwoe Tasneem. Wazazi wake Tasneem walisikia juu ya jambo hilo na wakataka Tasneem kurudi kuishi nao katika nyumba yao.





Tasneem alikumbuka jinsi alivyonuka vibaya.

Alikumbuka jinsi walivyomchukulia.

Aliwaambia kwamba hangewahi kwenda katika nyumba yao tena.

"Lazima wazazi wawapende watoto wao," alisema, "hata kama watoto wao wananuka vibaya." Badala yake Tasneem alimwalika nyanyake kwenda kuishi naye katika ile nyumba ya yule chifu tajiri na mvulana wake.

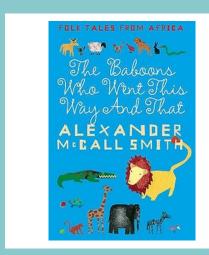


Nyanyake alifurahi sana, akastarehe sana, na kuwa mtu wa maana sana.

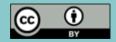


## Nyanya na Msichana Aliyenuka

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An excellent read aloud version of this story is Alexander McCall Smith's retelling in The Baboons Who Went This Way and That, Canongate, 2006.

