



Isipho ebesingakalindeleki

IsiNdebele



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Umtjhugululi ngu Mncedi Ntuli



Namhlanje lilanga lamabeletho lakaMbongeni,
uhlanganisa iminyaka elitjhumi, uthabe khulu.

Ababelethi bakhe bamenzele umnyanya.
Kuthengwe ikhekhe elihle elinomfanekiso
webholo.

Kunengi okudliwako okuzele itafula
elinokudla, amaswidi wona angekhe phela
asale emnyanyeni welanga lamabeletho.
Umndeni wakhe wamupha izipho.

Nabangani bakhe nabo bamupha izipho.

Boke abangani bakhe bebathabele ikhekhe
lakhe lebhola, balidla belasala ngombana
belilikhulu.



Ngemuva komnyanya umngani wakhe
uManqoba wabonakala ahlebela uMbongeni
endlebeni, uMbongeni wezwakala asele asithi:
“Kulungile mngani wami, ngizokufika lokha
nasele siqede ukubutha iintulo, ngirhelebha
phela sizokwazi ukuqeda ngokurhabako.”

Babutha iintulo begodu badobha
namaphepha. Baqeda ngokurhabako.

UMbongeni wabawa kunina kobana aye
ekhabo lakaManqoba ayokuthatha isipho
sakhe.



Unina lakaMbongeni wezwaka asele asithi:
“Kubayi ungamezi naso isipho sakaManqoba?”

“Ngisilibele ngephutha mma, kwatjho
uManqoba amomotheka kancani.”

“Ubuye ngokurhabako wena Mbongeni
ngombana nanihlangeneko ninomngani
wakho lo nidlala ningasaqedi.”



“Mbongeni ngibawa ujame kancani la,
ngisayokuthatha isipho sakho,” kwatjho
uManqoba.

UMbongeni wasala acabanga bonyana
ngabe mhlobo bani wesipho umngani wakhe
afuna ukumupha sona.

Bekasoloko amhlola kancani, uthe
angakalindeli nangu uManqoba avela aphephe
ibhoksi elincani, ingabe linani ngaphakathi?

“Ngikufisela ilanga lamabeletho elihle mngani
wami, nasi isipho sakho ngiyathemba
uzosithabela,” utjho uyamomotheka.

UManqoba unikela uMbongeni ibhoksi.



“Baba ke! mngani wami wazi bunjani bonyana bengisoloko nginesifiso sokuba nenja?”

Bengikuzwa lokha nesicoca ngeenlwana bonyana uyayithandainja, ngikubaweleyona kubamkhulu wami unenja enemidlwana emine.”

“Ngithokoza khulu mngani wami,” Kwatjho uMbongeni ithabo litlolwe ebusweni bakhe.



“Ngingayiguga?” watjho amomotheka
uMbongeni kodwana anevalo elincani.

“Phela sekuyinja yakho le, sale sowuyithatha
mngani wami, Mina sengiwuqedile wami
umsebenzi,” kwatjho uManqoba.

“Sele nginalo nebizo layo ngizoyithiya njenga
nje,” Kwatjho uMbongeni sele aphethe ibhoksi.

“Baba ke sewunalo ibizo masinya kangaka?”
uManqoba uyamangala.

“Ibizo layo nguMafiya.”



Wathoma uMafiya wajuguja umsila wakhe athabela uMbongeni. Bekanamabala amhlophe umzimba woke.

Bese abe nebala elinzima ebusweni. Wazwaka asele asenza itjhada uMbongeni wangasazi bonyana athini kuye.

“Kufanele uyicociseinja yakho le. Wenzelela kobana ikujayele,” kwatjho uManqoba ululeka umngani wakhe lo ngombana uyambona kwangathi usararekile.

“Sengiyakhamba Manqoba angazi umma uzokuthini lokha nasele angibona sengibuya nenja.”



Uthe nekafika ekhaya uMbongeni, wakhamba wayoyifihla ngemuva kwendlu.

Bekasaba ngombana begade angazi bonyana uzoyiphatha bunjani inja yakhe le.

Wezwa unina asele ambuza bonyana sele abuyile na? Wezwa abethwa livalo ngombana unina begade angayifuni inja uthi iyatshwenya.

“Iye mma sengibuyile, ungeza uzokubona isipho sami,” kuphendula uMbongeni.



Wafika unina wanele wabonainja, wavele wambuza wathi: "Isipho senja?" Wabuza umbuzo lo ahlahle amehlo ngebanga lokumangala.

"Ungisize ke Mbongeni uyithlogomeleinja yakho le, angifuni ukubona ubulongwe bayo etatawini lapha. Ngiyakholwa bonyana sizwene?"

"Ngizoyithlogomela mma ngiyathembisa," kwatjho uMbongeni akhophozela aqale phasi.



Ubusuku bokuthoma baba budisi kuMbongeni.
Ngombana uMafiya walila ubusuku boke,
angafuni ukulala ayedwa ngaphandle,
wagcina asele amngenisa ngendlini.

UMafiya wagcina asele ajayela ukulala
ngaphandle endlini yakhe.

Wakhula wathoma ukugijimisana ngaphandle
noMbongeni.



UMafiya bekasidla ukudla kwezinja okuthelwa
ngesikotlelweni, bekakuthanda khulu.

Bebakubeka ngefritjhini nekuseleko.
UMbongeni wamthengela namathambo
wokudlala, Bekavele amphosele lona bese
uMafiya uyaleqela alibambe.

Lokha nekufanele ahlambe uMafiya
bekabaleka ayokubhaca ngemuva kwendlu,
bekangazwani namanzi.



Ngelinye ilanga uMbongeni nekabuya
esikolweni wazenzela ukudla kwemini.

Njengokujayelekileko wavula efritjhini
wathatha inyama nomhluzi wafuthumeza
nomratha, wahlala phansi wadla.

Nakaqeda ukudla kwafika unina wavula
efritjhini wezwaka asele asithi:
“UMafiya sele adlile na?”



“Awa mma bekusadla mina maqangi,” kwatjho uMbongeni aqedelela ukudla kwakhe.

“Alo ke uyephi umhluzi wakhe ebewungefritjhini?”

Uragela phambili nokuzuma ngefritjhini. Uthe nakasazumako njalo unina lakaMbongeni wabona isikotlelo ebesinomhluzi singezinkini.

“Hawu! Mbongeni ufuna ukungitjela bonyana nguwe lo odle umhluzi wakaMafiya?”



“Mma mina bengingazi bonyana loya mhluzi wakaMafiya,” ubuso bakhe besele butjhugulukile wafisa kwangathi angakugabha koke ukudla akudlileko.

“Baba ke! Angekhe phela ugabhe ukudla, okusalako sekungemathunjini njengombana usuthi nje,” utjho nje unina lakaMbongeni ufile ziinhleko.

“Manjesi nange ngingagula ke?” Ngesikhathi leso ulinga ukugabha kodwana azange kuphume ukudla kwakaMafiya.



Ngaleso isikhathi uMafiya ujame emnyango uyamkhonkotha, Ulindele uMbongeni bonyana amlethele ukudla babese bayokudlala njengemalangeneni.

Wezwakala uMbongeni asele asithi:

“Ngaze ngasithola isipho, njenganje sengidle nokudla kwenja ingabe ngizokuphila na?”

Bekazizwa azinyenya uMbongeni. Wabuye watjhugulula umqondo wakhe wathi:

“Nengabe uMafiya akakafi kutjho bonyana nami angekhe ngife.”

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