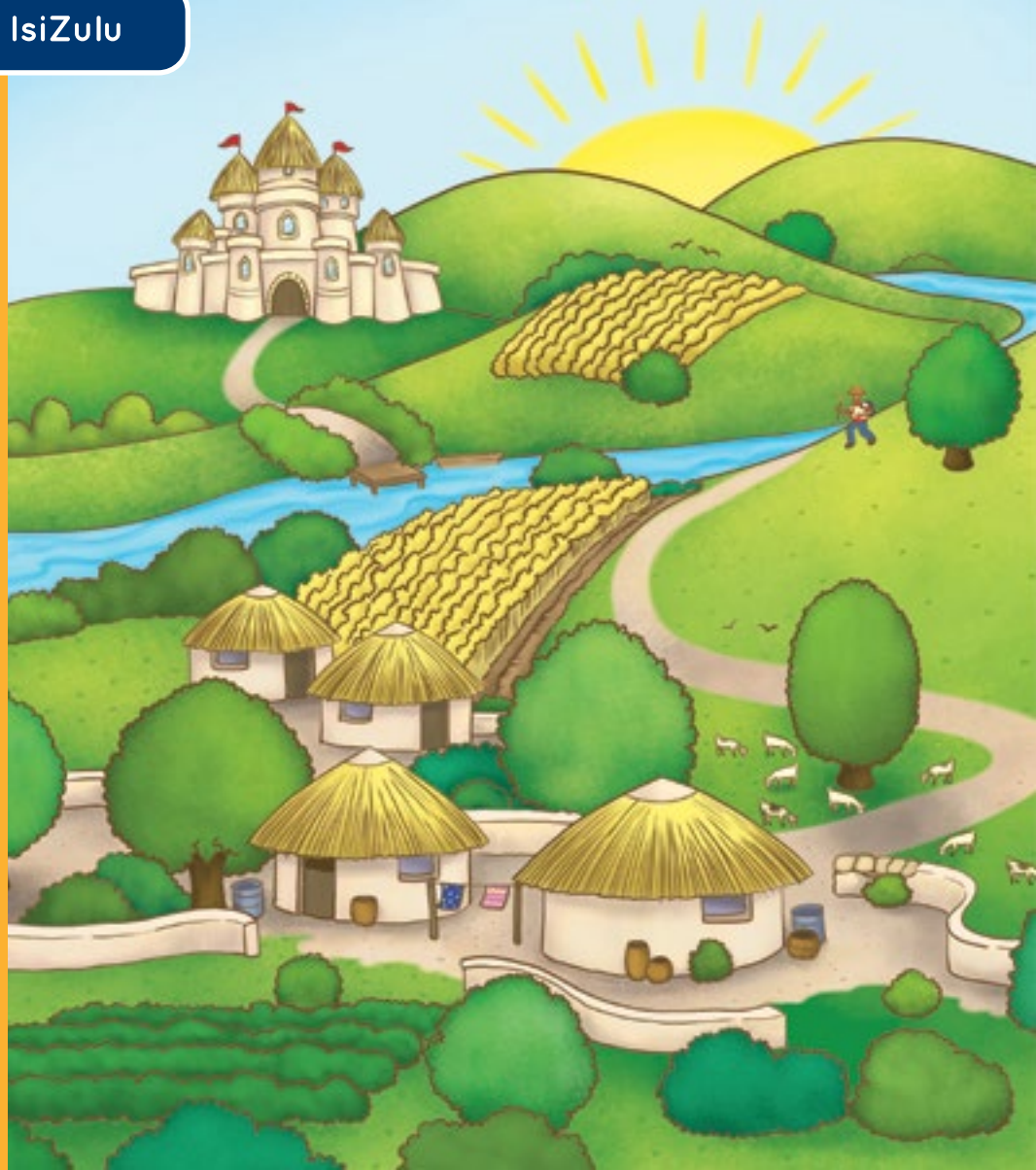




# Likuphi Igolide

Harold Gondwe

IsiZulu



# Likuphi Igolide

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Kuhunyushwe ngu Samkelisiwe Nyathi

Umnumzane Sagila ubehlala nonkosikazi nezingane ezine; amantombazane amabili, nabafana ababili.

Babewumdeni osebenza kanzima. Baziphilisa ngokusebenza epulazini labo. Babenezimbuzi ezimbalwa kanti futhi, nezinkunku eziphilayo.

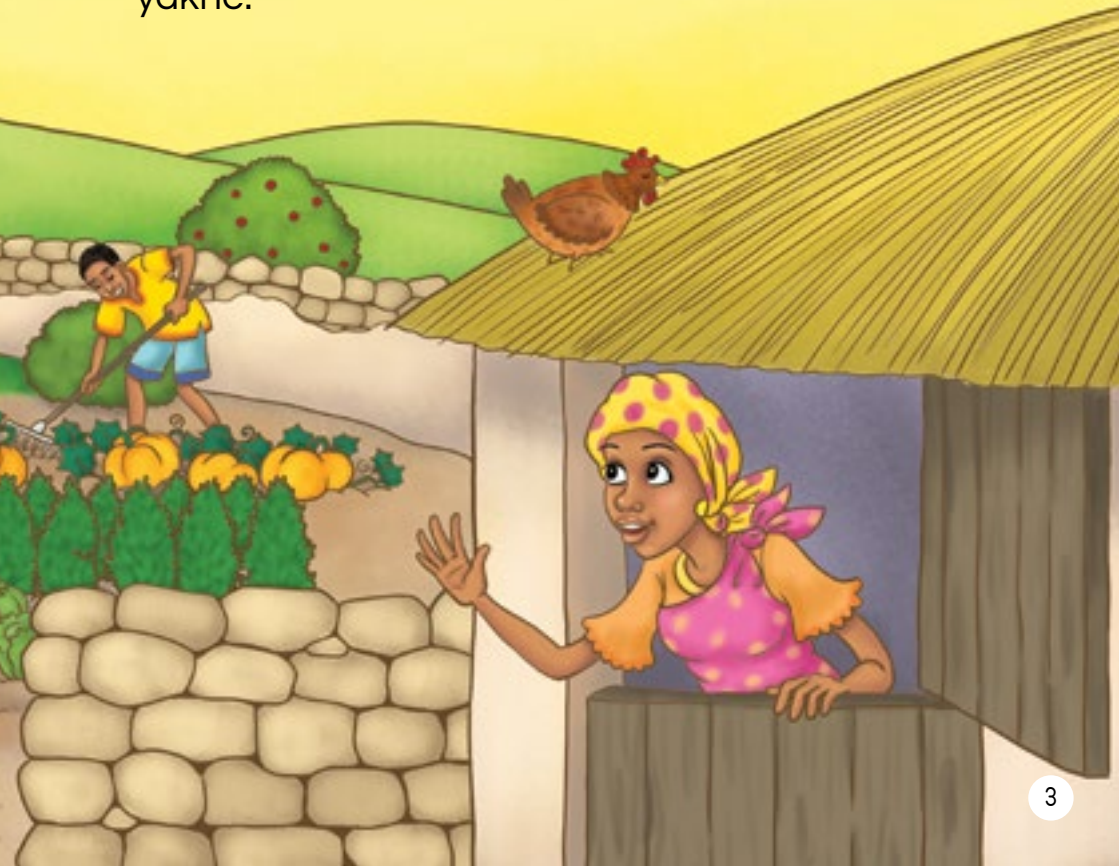
Izingane zabo bezizinikele emfundweni, futhi, beziya njalo sikoleni. Omunye wabafana, uThemba, wayefuna ukufundela ukuba umshayeli wendiza.



Wayezimisele ukwenza ngcono isimo somndeni wakhe. Abantu babembiza ngoMnumuzane Sagila ngoba wayehlala ephethe induku yakhe ngesandla.

Wayenentukutelo emfushane futhi, wayevame ukuthethisa abantu. Uma abangane bakhe bemthukuthelisa, ubezothi, “Ngizokuphahlaza ikhanda ngenduku yami, awungazi kahle.”

Abangani bakhe babevele bamhleke ngenxa yokuthi, wayengakaze ashaye muntu ngenduku yakhe.



UMnumuzane Sagila wayevuka njalo ekuseni kakhulu, ayosebenza epulazini lakhe. Wayetshale ummbila, amakinati, nezinhlobo ezahlukene zemifino eluhlaza.

Isomiso simphazamisile ngoba, amasimu abomile kwazise imvula ibingani. Waqala wafuna indlela azowathola ngayo amanzi. Ngelinye ilanga ekhuluma yedwa wathi:



“Uma ngikwazi ukumba umgodini ojulile futhi obanzi, mhlawumbe ngizokwazi ukuthola amanzi engingawasebenzisa ukunisela insimu yami.”

Usho lokhu ngenkathi ekhipha amathuluzi akhe okumba, waya lapho ayekhohlelwa ukuthi uzowathola khona amanzi.



“Mbhombho, uyakubona engikubonayo, ngabe uSagila uphile saka ngokomqondo; angaqala kanjani ukumba umgodi ensimini kusashisa kangaka?” kusho uSiqhoko, omunye wabangani baka Sagila.

“Ngicabanga nokuthi kukhona okushodayo ekhanda lomngani wethu,” kwengeza uMsobho.

“Ngicabanga ukuthi kungcono sikhulume nomngani wethu, khona-ke sizozwa ukuthi yini afuna ukuyizuza ngalokhu akwenzayo,” kusho uSiqhoko.



Usagila wezwa ukuthi abangani bakhe bayamhleka, futhi bacabanga ukuthi uyahlanya. Lokhu kwamkhuthaza kakhulu ukumba amanzi ngokuzimisela.

Ngolunye usuku esamba, wezwa sengathi ushaye itshe elikhulu. Wabe esethula kancane, ukuze abuke ngokucophelela lelitshe.

Wabe esenquma ukuthi kuzoba ngcono uma engalishayi kakhulu, kodwa kunalokho, ngcono alizungeze ukuze alisuse kahle.

Esamba, wathola ukwethuka kwempilo yakhe, itshe elinjani leli, azibuze ngalo amehlo akhe athe njo etsheni.





“Yini lena, idwala elinjani leli?” kusho uSagila ehlola itshe ngasese eqinisekisa ukuthi akekho obonayo ukuthi ubukani. Waguqa phansi, waqala ukusebenzisa izandla zakhe ukumba leli dwala eliyisimangaliso.

Kwakuyidwala elicwebezelayo elalicwebezela noma limbozwe inhlabathi. Wabe esekhipha ifosholo lakhe, walikhipha lonke idwala.



Noma uSagila ayengaqondi ukuthi lolu uhlobo luni lwedwala, wayebona ukuthi uhlobo oluthile lwedwala.

Wabe esefaka idwala ngaphakathi kwesikhwama sikabhaka.

Ube esenquma ukuthi kungcono aye ekhaya, lapho-ke azokwazi ukubuka ngokucophelela idwala lakhe.

Wahlala phansi kancane, wabe esethatha isidlo sakhe sasemini; amahewu, waphuza.



Esahleli phansi kuqhamuke uMsobho abuze,  
“Kwenzenjani mngani wami, ukhathele, wenzani  
njengoba imvula ingani nje, leli damu lakho  
olimbayo lizogcwala nini ngamanzi?”

“Iseluleko sami kuwe ukuthi; uyeke lokhu  
okwenzayo, vele abantu bathi ulahlekelwa  
yinqondo.”



“Hawu! Manje usukhohliwe igama lami Msobho?  
Ufuna ngikushaye ngenduku yami manje,”  
esho eyicosha.

“Kuyicala yini uma sihlekisana nawe mngani  
wami, bengikuhlekisa nje,” kusho uMsobho  
ehamba.

USagila wabe esebona ukuthi kungcono  
agoduke, kwazise akasakwazi ukuqhubeka  
nokumba umgodi.

Ngesikhathi uSagila efika ekhaya,  
akakhulumanga namuntu, uqonde egumbini  
lakhe, wavula ipotimede lakhe lakudala; wase  
efihla itshe lakhe kulo.

Wagibela embhedeni wakhe waqala  
ukucabanga ukuthi kumele enzeni ngegolide  
lakhe, akatholanga mpendulo, wabe eselala.

Waphaphama ezwa sebembiza ngesidlo  
sakusihlwa.

USagila wagcina exoxela umkakhe imfihlo yakhe ngedwala. Wayesevele eligezile itshe, kwacaca ukuthi igolide.

Wabe esenquma ukuthi kungcono ayeke ukumba amanzi ngoba abangani bakhe sebembiza ngohlanya.



Izindaba ngetshe legolide likaSagila zasakazeka nxazonke, lokhu kungenxa yokuthi umkakhe, wayehlanganyele imfihlo nomngani wakhe, ngakho-ke; izindaba zagcina zisatshalaliswa nxazonke.

Ngelinye ilanga izindhuna ze nkosi zeza kwaSagila zizomtshela ukuthi inkosi izwile ngegolide likaSagila.

Inkosi ithe, izokwakhela uSagila indlu entsha futhi, imnikeze noma yini yena nomndeni wakhe abayidingayo.

Bamshela ukuthi umkhandlu wasebukhosini uzomlanda uSagila ukuze akwazi ukunikezela ngegolide enkosini kwazise, igolide walikhipa ezweni lenkosi.

Lokhu akuzange kumphathe kahle uSagila.  
Yize kunjalo, kwakungekho okunye  
ayengakwenza ngakho.

Ukwakhiwa kwendlu yakhe entsha kwaqala  
kwaSagila, bafaka ifenisha entsha, kwathi  
izindhuna zenkosi zaqapha indlu kaSagila.

Bathengelwe izingubo ezitsha, impilo ibimnandi  
kuSagila nomndeni wakhe, izinga lempilo labo  
lithuthukile.



Wonke umuntu wayefisa ukuthi bangaba ngamalungu omndeni kasagila.

“Baba, uyazi yini ukuthi igolide lakho libiza malini, lokho inkosi ekwenzele kona kuncane kakhulu, kusho uLungelo, indodana endala kaSagila.

“Mfana wami, ucabanga ukuthi wazi ini, usemncane kakhulu, ucabanga ukuthi uma ngingatholanga igolide besizoba nazo zonke izinto esinazo manje lapha ekhaya? Ngisho namanje, angikabi nakho nokuqhonda ukuthi kungani itshe elicwebezelayo lingenza iNkosi ingithengele izinto eziningi kangaka,” kusho uSagila.

“Kungcono ukuthi ngihambe nawe baba, ngaleyo ndlela ngizobona ukuthi kuzonkwenzekani.”

“Cha, mfana wami, iNkosi ayishongo ukuthi kumele ngize nomuntu.”



Lwafika usuku lokuthi uSagila alandwe ngesikebe. Phela, uma uya endlini yobukhosi uhamba ngesikebhe ngoba uwela umfula.

USagila wayehamba naMabutho, wayenesikhwama ayefake kuso igolide lakhe.

Lapho sebephakathi nomfula, uSagila wakhapha igolide lakhe ngoba efuna ukulisula.

Wayejabule kakhulu ngoba wayephetwe njengomuntu ohlonophekile. Ngisho nezindhuna zazifisa ukufana noSagila.



Wabe eseqala uSagila ukudlala ngegolide lakhe, wayeliphonsa phezulu alibambe, kwazise wayejabule kakhulu futhi; wayengazi ukuthi enzeni.

Ngokukalindelekile, igolide lawa ezandleni zakhe ngenkathi ehleli eduze kwamanzi, wamemeza, “Igolide lami!” ngenkathi liwela emanzini.

USagila wabe esethi, “Mshayeli, misa isikebhe, ngidinga ukuyofuna igolide lami.”

“Lokho ngeke kwenzeka, uyabona ukuthi umfula ugcwele amanzi, futhi kunezingwenya kulo mfula, asifuni ukufa,” kusho omunye wabashayeli besikebhe.



Besakhuluma nje, base besondela esigodlweni senkosi, kusobala ukuthi inkosi yayilungiselele idili elikhulu ngokufika kukaSagila.

Ngaleso sikhathi, uSagila wethukile, wafisa sengathi angaziphonsa emanzini.

Isikebhe safika esigodlweni seNkosi, behla bonke.

Ibutho labamba uSagila ngesandla lamholela enkosini kwazise manje wayephethe isikhwama esasingenalutho.



Amabutho nawo ayethukile ngoba ayazi ukuthi kwenzekeni ngegolide. Bathathe uSagila baya naye egumbini lapho inkosi eyayimlindele kulo.

“Ngiyakwemukela Mnumzane Sagila eNdlunkulu, ngikubizele lapha ukuze ngizobona igolide olimbe enhlabathini yami,” kusho iNkosi ngenkulu injabulo nentokozo.

“Unganginika igolide lelo mnumzane, bese sizogubha kanye nawe ngaleli dili elikhulu engikulungiselele lona.”



“Likuphi igolide mnumzane Sagila?” kubuza inkosi ngenkati ilula isandla ifuna ukubamba igolide.

Amabutho abheke phansi, ayesaba kakhullu ukuthi kungenzeka yini ukuthi usagila angagcine eboshiwe ngokulahlekelwa yigolide.

USagila wafaka isandla sakhe esikhwameni, wasikhipha engenalutho. Wabe esekhwehlela kancane.

“Nkosi yami, kwenzeke iphutha, igolide liwele emfuleni,” uSagila wayesethuthumela manje.

INkosi yathukuthela kakhulu, “Kungani uze lapha ngaphandle kwegolide, anginantshisekelo kuwe, nginetshisekelo ngegolide.”

# UKUBONGA

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