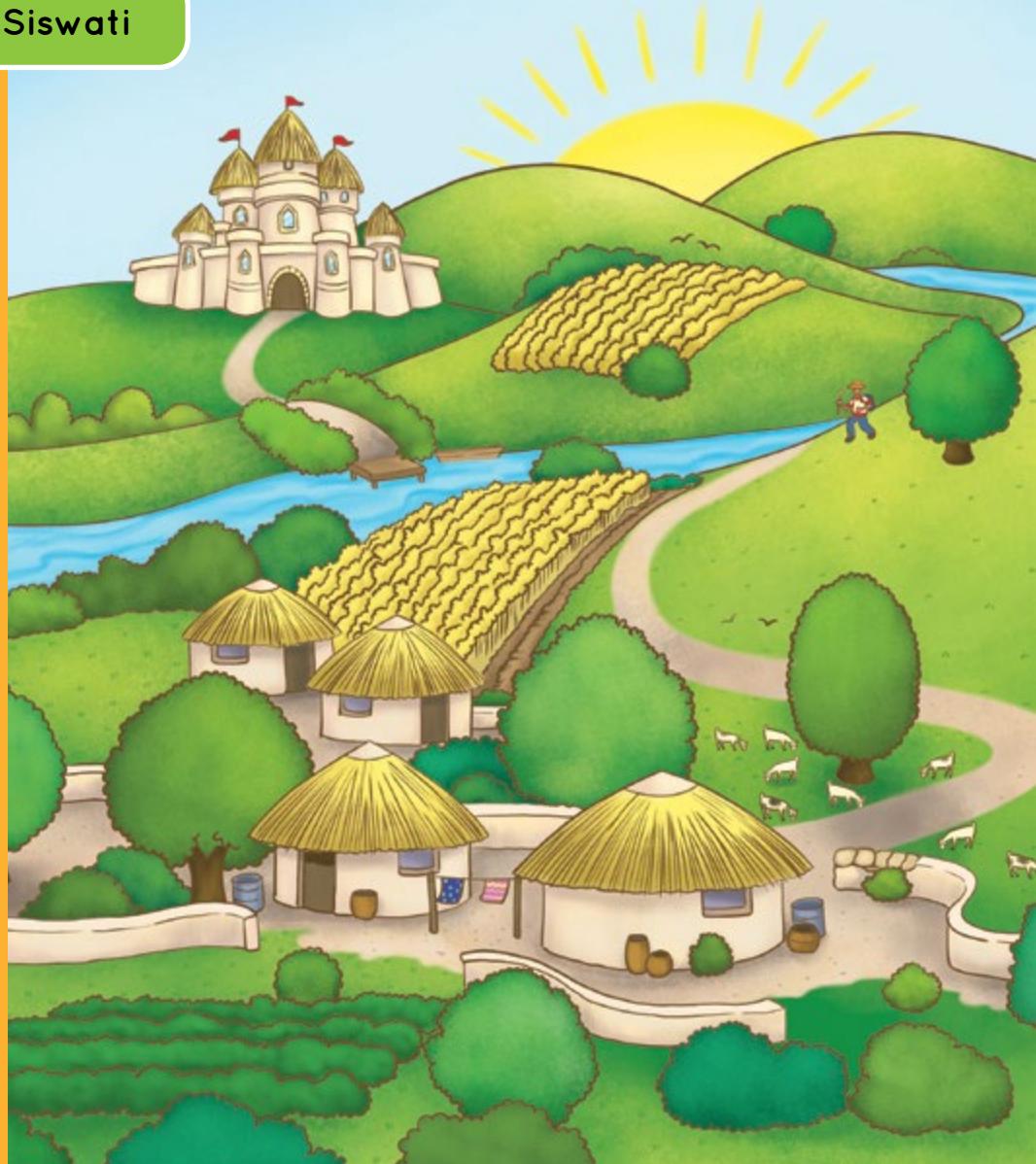




Ikuphi Igolide

Harold Gondwe

Siswati



Ikuphi Igolide

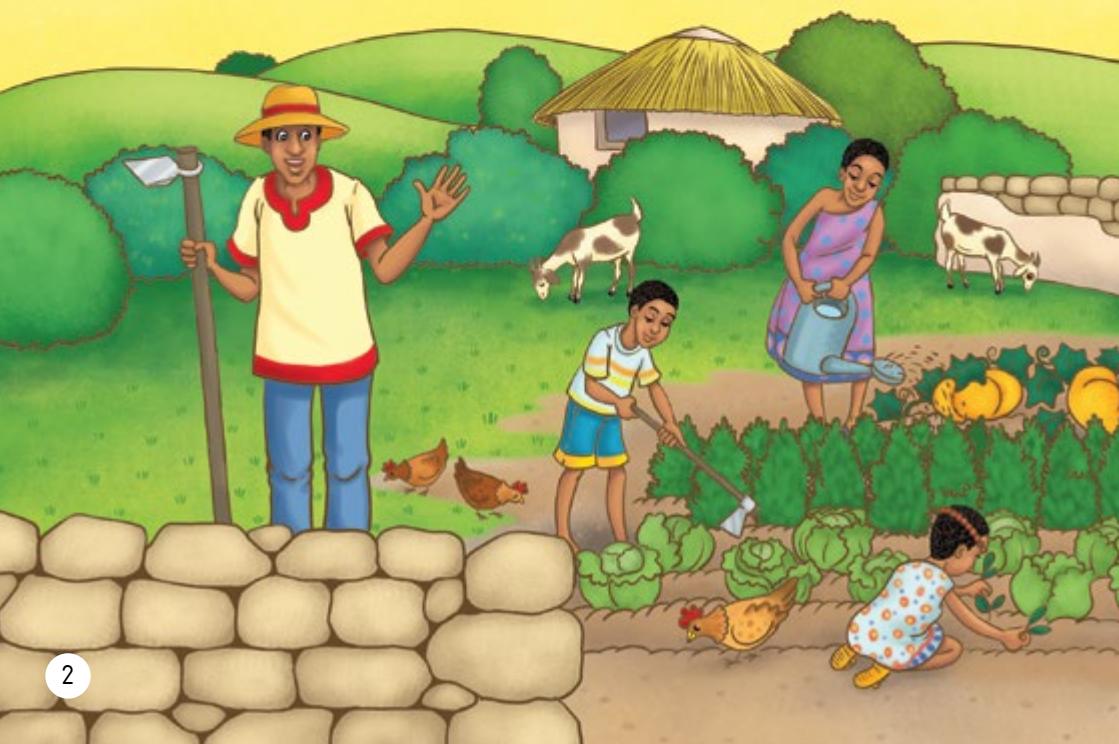
Ibhalwe ngu Harold Gondwe
Umdvwebi ngu Heidi-Kate Greeff



Umnumzane Sagila bekahlala nemkakhe
kanye nebantfwana bakhe labane,
emantfombatana lamabili nebaftana
lababili. Bekungumndeni losebenta
ngekutikhanda, bebatiphilisa ngekulima.
Bafuye timbuti letimbalwa netinkhukhu.

Labantfwana bona bebatimisele
ngemfundvo bayo esikolweni njalo.

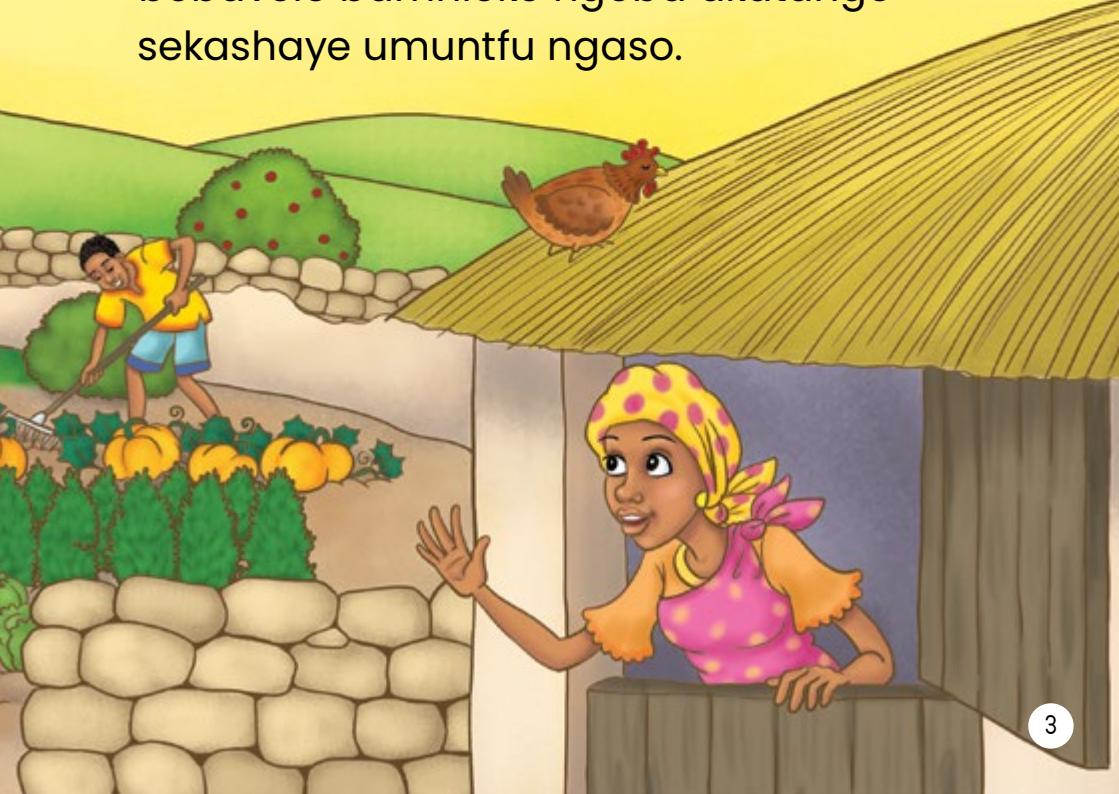
Lomunye walabafana bakhe,
Silomo, bekafuna kufundzela kuba
ngumshayeli wetindiza.



Bekatimisele kakhulu kutsi atibone agucule simo semndeni wakubo.

Bantfu baze babite umnumzane Sagila ngaleligama kungoba bekhahlala njalo aphetse sagila esandleni sakhe, bekanelulaka atsandza kutsetsa njalo.

Nangabe kwentekile bangani bakhe bamtfukutselisa bekavele atsi: "Ngitakuphohlota lenhloko yakho ngalesagila sami awungati kahle mine," bebanele bamhleke ngoba akatange sekashaye umuntfu ngaso.



Bekavuka njalo ekuseni umnumzane Sagila
ayotilimela emasimini akhe, bekalima
ummbila, emantongomane kanye
netibhidvo letahlukahlukene.

Intfo beyimkhatsata somiso, belomisile
kakhulu imvula beyingani.

Bekahlala acabanga indlela yekutfola
emanti. Ngalelinye lilanga wavakala
atikhulumela yedvwa atsi:



“Uma ngingagubha umgodzi lojulile nalobanti mhlawumbe ngingawatfola emanti ekutselela insimu yami,” washonjalo atsatsa tintfo tekugubha, ashona khona lapho anelitsemba lokutfola emanti.

Wacala lomsebenti wakhe wekugubha umgodzi ekuseni. Bantfu labadlula ngendlela bebanele bambuke njengeluhlanya bacabanga kutsi kukhona lokushodako lapha kuSagila.



“Utsi uyangibonisa nje yeMsobho, nje titsatsa kahle lakuSagila, angasukela lihlatsi kushisa kangaka,” kusho Sigcoko, lomunye webangani baSagila.

“Nami ngicabanga kutsi atikapheleli kahle lapha enhloko yemngani wetfu,” kunanatela Msobho. Bahleka bobabili.

“Ngibona kuncono sike siye siyococa nemngani wetfu, sive kutsi ucondzeni ngalentfo layentako,” kusho Sigcoko



Kwafika etindlebeni taSagila kutsi bangani bakhe bayamhleka futsi bacabanga kutsi uyahlanya, loko kwamenta watimisela kakhulu kugubha emanti.

Kwatsi ngalelinye lilanga asagubha, weva ngatsi ushaya litje lelikhulu wabese uyema kancane, afuna kubukisia lelitje.

Wafikelwa ngumcondvo wekutsi angasashayi ngemandla akalinge kulincenga ngasemaceleni kute atolikhipha kahle. Utse asenta njalo hawu kantsi yini lena layimbako, nhloboni yelitje leli, sewukhiphe emehlo angaka!



“Kantsi yini lena, litje lelinjani leli,” asho
Sagila akhulumela phansi futsi acalata
abuka ngala nangala kutsi kute umuntfu
lobona lentfo layibonako.

Avele aguce ngemadvolo asale asebentisa
tandla takhe kugubha lomhlolo welitje.

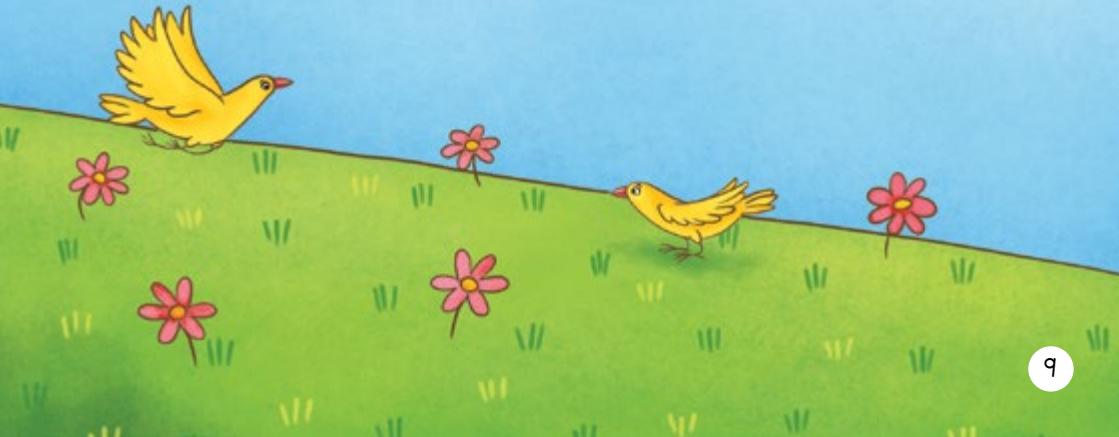
Belicwebetela lelitje noma limbonywe
ngumhlabatsi, wabese utsatsa lishofolo
walikhipha lonkhe.



Noma Sagila bekangavisi
kahle kutsi nhloboni yelitje leli
kodvwa watibonela kutsi litje
lelingakavami leli.

Walitsatsa wayolifaka esikhwameni sakhe
sekumema emhlane. Wacala washaywa
luvalo weva nemandla ekuchubeka
alime sekaphela.

Wabona kuncono aye ekhaya ayolibukisia
kahle lelitje lakhe. Watsi kuhlala kancane,
watsatsa emahewu akhe esidlo sasemini,
wawanatsa.



Utse asahleti njalo kwachamuka Msobho wavele watsi: "Sekwente njani mngani, sewudziniwe, kantsi vele wentani ngoba phela imvula ayini, liyogcwala nini lelidamu loligubhako?"

"Mine ngiyakucebisa, vele uyekele lentfo loyentako, phela bantfu batsi uyahlanya."



“Konje ungikhohliwe kutsi ngingubani
ligama lami, Msobho? Ufuna
ngikuphohlote ngalesagila nyalo,”
asho asitsatsa.

“Kantsi awusadlaliswa mngani wami
mine bengikudlalisa nje kuphela,” asho
ahamba Msobho.

Wabona kuncono aye ekhaya ngoba
akasakhoni kuchubeka nemsebenti wakhe
wekugubha.

Wafika ekhaya Sagila wangakhulumisi
muntfu wavele wacondza ekamelweni
lakhe wavula liputumende lakhe lelidzala
wafihla lelitje lakhe.

Wagibela embhedzeni wacabanga
kutsi kumele enteni ngalelitje lakhe,
ugcine angakayitfoli imphendvulo wate
watumeka walala.

Weva sebamvusa kutsi atodla kudla
kwantsambama.

Sagila wagcina sekahlebela umkakhe
ngendzaba yalelitje, phela wagcina
sekaligeza labonakala kutsi igolide
phela lena.

Wabona kutsi kuncono avele ayekele
kugubha umgodzi ngoba bangani
bambita ngeluhlanya.



Indzaba yekutsi Sagila unelitje lelinemali
yagcina seyibhebhetsaka, phela umfati
wakhe naye wahlebela umngani wakhe
yahamba njalo indzaba.

Bangani bakhe bebatsi uma bambuta
aphike atsi akati kutsi bakhulumana ngani.

Ngalelinye lilanga kwafika tindvuna
tenkhosi titotjela Sagila kutsi inkhosini ivile
kutsi utfole igolide.

Inkhosi itsi utawunikwa indlu lensha,
atsengelwe konkhe lakufunako
nemndeni wakhe.

Sagila utawulandvwa basebukhosini
atoniketa inkhosini legolide ngoba uyigubhe
emhlabatsini wenkhosi.

Akuzange kumphatse kahle loko Sagila
kodvwa bekungekho langakwenta,
kwacala kwakhiwa emtini waSagila,
kwafakwa ifenisha lensha, tindvuna
tenkhosi betihlala tigadze umuti waSagila.

Batsengelwa ngisho timphahla letinsha,
imphilo bese imnandzi ngemphela lapha
kaSagila, sebaphila imphilo lesetulu.



Wonkhe umuntfu bekafisa kuba
semndenini waSagila.

“Babe ngabe uyati kutsi legolide yakho
iyimali lengakanani, phela loku inkhos
lekutsengele kona kuncane kakhulu,” kusho
Lungelo umfana waSagila lomkhulu.

“Hheyi wena mfana watini nje wena
umncane kakhulu, ucabanga kutsi kube
angikatfoli legolide ngabe sinato tonkhe
letintfo lapha ekhaya.

Futsi nanyalo angivisisi kutsi litje
nje lelicwebetelako lingenta inkhos
ingitsengele tintfo letingaka,” kusho Sagila.

“Kuncono ngihambe nawe babe
ngitowubona kutsi kutawube kwentekani.”

“Cha mfana wami inkhos ayikasho kutsi
ngite nemuntfu.”

Lwafika lusuku lapho Sagila alandvwa khona, nangabe uya esigodlwani uhamba ngesikebhe uwele umfula.

Sagila bekapheleketa ngemasotja asebukhosini, bekaphetse sikhwama lapho bekafake khona legolide yakhe. Batse sebaphakatsi nemfula Sagila wavula sikhwama sakhe wakhipha igolide yakhe afuna kuyisula.

Bekajabule kakhulu ngoba bekaphetfwe njengesitatanyiswa. Letindvuna betifisa kufana naSagila.



Nangu Sagila sekadlalisa igolide yakhe ayiphosa etulu aphindze ayibambe, phela ujabule kakhulu akati nekutsi enteni.

Utsite angakalindzeli lutfo yaphunyuka esandleni kantsi uhleti ngaseceleni kwemanti wevakala sekamemeta atsi: “Igolide yami,” yavele yangena emantini. Wevakala sekatsi Sagila: “Yemshayeli misa lesikebhe ngehle ngifune igolide yami.”

“Angeke kwenteke loko uyawubona futsi nalomfula ugcwele kakhulu kunetingwenya, asifuni kufa tsine,” kusho lomunye webashayeli besikebhe.



Bakhulumu nje sebasondzele esigodlweni senkhosi, kuyabonakala kutsi inkhosu yente umcimbi lomkhulu kulindzelwe Sagila negolide yakhe.

Ngaleso sikhatsi Sagila sewushaywa luvalo ufisa nekutiphosa emantini. Sifike sikebhe esigodlweni behle bonkhe.

Tindvuna tibambe Sagila ngetandla ayiswe enkhosini phela sewuphetse sikhwama lesingenalutfo.



Letindvuna nato setitfukile ngoba tiyati kutsi kwentekeni ngalegolide.

Angeniswe endlini lapho inkhosim lindzele khona.

“Ngiyakwamukela mnumzane Sagila lapha ebukhosini, ngikubitele kubona igolide loyitfole lapha eveni lami ngisho emhlabatsini wami phela,” kusho inkosi igcwele injabulo lemangalisako.

“Unganginiketa yona mnumzane wami bese sijabula nawe njengoba sikwentele lomcimbi lomkhulu kangaka.”



“Ikuphi igolide mnumzane Sagila?” Isho inkhosililula sandla ifuna kwamukela igolide.

Tindvuna tona tavele tabuka phansi tetfuke kakhulu phela kungenteka aboshwe Sagila ngekulahla legolide.

Afake sandla esikhwameni Sagila sibuye singakaphatsi lutfo, akhwehlele kancane “Nkhosi yami kwenteke liphutsa lapha, igolide ingene lapha emfuleni,” sewuyavetela Sagila.

Inkhosi yavele yantjintja ebusweni, yatfukutsela kakhulu.

“Bewuyaphi ungakaphatsi igolide ngoba mine angifuni wena ngifuna legolide.”

EMAVI EKUBONGA

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