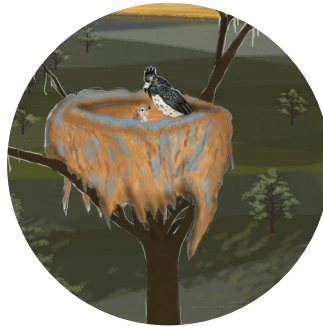




# Isityalo esiphilisayo



**NguPhinah Ncube**





UNtsapho lukhozi olikrelekrele nolunamandla.  
Wayethanda ukubhabha ajikeleze umlambo iTsitsa.  
Wayeqhele ukubhabha phezu kwamasimi ombona  
ekhangela ukutya.





UKhozana unyana kaNtsapho wayegula. “Unyana wam uyagula”. Watsho elusizi. UNtsapho uxhalabile ngoku kugula konyana wakhe.

“Ndingenza ntoni?” UNtsapho uyacinga



Ndiza kumsa kugqirha uTyamzashe. UTyamzashe ngugqirha olungileyo onamava. Wazi banzi ngezifo nezigulo ezininzi.





UGqirha Tyamzashe uxilonga uKhozana.  
“Sisifo esiyingozi kakhulu esi,”

“Ndingenza ntoni?” Wabuza uNtsapho.



Iindaba ezimnandi zezokuba unyana angalufumana unyango. Kudingeka ufumane ingcambu yekhala. Eli khala lifumaneka kumasimi ombona.





Wakhawuleza wabhabha uNtsapho esiya kulaa  
masimini ombona.



Wathi esabhabha ejikeleza amasimi wabona into  
enenkangeleko yekhala. Xa kanye eqala ukuthi  
vu waqaphela ukuba ayililo. Waqhubeka waya  
phambili ebhabha ekhangela.



Kwathi gqj uThembeni intethe watsiba wathi vu etyeni.

“Ukhangela ntoni Ntsapho?”

“Ndikhangela ikhala elibomvu.”

UThembeni wakhokelela emkhangelisa walandela uNtsapho. Bafika kwindawo akhula kuyo la makhala kude kufuphi nomlambo iTsitsa.







“Unyana wam uzakuphila namhlanje. ndilifumene ichiza lesi sifo.” Waqala ukutsala isityalo ngethemba lokusifumana neengcambu zaso..



Umhlaba wawome kakhulu nto leyo yamenza wakhawuleza ukudinwa.



UNtsapho wasokola ukutsala isityalo.  
“Mandikuncedise,” watsho uThembeni. UNtsapho  
wacinga uThembeni mncinci kakhulu ukuba  
amncede.

Bobabini bagrumba.





UNtsapho wasebenzisa iinzipho zakhe ezomeleleyo ukutsala isityalo. Bhulukuqu! Wayo kuwa esithe qhiwu ngenyawo isityalo.

Wamhleka uThembeni.



Ngesaquphe wathi vumbululu uNtsapho wabhabha enemincili. Wabhabha wagoduka ephethe isityalo ngomlomo.





UThembeni washiyeka emangalisiwe  
engonelisekanga. “UNtsapho lo akanambulelo!”  
Naye watsiba wabhabha wemka.



UNtsapho wafika kuGqirha Tyamzashe wamnika ingcambu. Wathi makayibilise ayipholise ayiseze uKhozana.





UKhozana wagongqoza iyeza, waphila. Wavuka emandlalweni waphaphazela eziva esempilweni.

“Yazi ndilibele ukubulela uThembeni. Watsho uNtsapho



UKhozana nomama walo lwabhabha lwabuyela  
kumasimi ombona. Bamfumana apho uThembeni,  
bambulela.

