



# Umdobi wetinhlanti



**Room to Read**





Lidamu iNkhomati latiwa kakhulu ngetinyoka  
tasemantini letinyenti. Mancoba nemndeni  
wakhe bebahlala dvute nalelidamu lelikhulu.  
Badobi betinhlantlanti bebalinconota kakhulu  
lelidamu.





Takhamuti letingenti kulenzawo betiphila ngekudoba. Labanye bebatsengisa letinhlanti emakethe, labanye badobela kudla.



Mancoba naye abefisa kuba ngumdobi.  
Abehlala acela babe wakhe kutsi amtsengele  
emadoba.





Ngalelilanga babe wakhe amtsengele emadoba, wajabula kakhulu. Inkinga kwaba ngulokutsi uyesaba kuhamba yedvwa edamini kuyewudoba. Wacela bangani bakhe, Tonkhe naSipho kutsi bahambe naye. Bangavumi. Basaba tinyoka tasemantini.



Utakwenta njani? Uyafuna kudoba kute asite babe wakhe ngekutsengisa tinhlanti emakethe. Mancoba wacinisela wahamba yedwa wayawudoba tinhlanti.

Ngemuva kwesikhashana, wabona inyoka yasemantini ihlamba ita ngakuye.





Wabutsa tintfo takhe wagijima abuyela  
ekhaya angenayo nayinye inhlanti.



Ngakusasa Mancoba waya kubangani  
bakhe kuyobancenga kutsi bahambe naye  
edamini. Bachubeka bala. Basaba tinyoka  
tasemantini.







Utawuhamba nabani? Ngeke ahambe yedwa futsi. Kepha inhlitiyo yakhe ifisa kudoba. Uticabanga angumdobi lophumelelako kulenzawo.



Babe Ngomane ngumakadzebona wemdobi. Ngelilanga lelilandzelako, wacondza kubabe Ngomane. Wacela kuhamba naye kuyodoba tinhlanti. Babe Ngomane wavuma. Mancoba wajabula watimisela kubamba tinhlanti letinyenti.





Babe Ngomane abelati kakhulu lelidamu iNkhomati. Wahamba naMancoba endzaweni lengenato tinyoka tasemantini. Mancoba wativa ajabulile ngalesincumo.



Baphosa emadoba abo base bayalindza.  
Lidoba laMancoba likhombisa kunyakata.  
Kusho kutsi lidoba libambe inhlanti.





Babe Ngomane watjela Mancoba kutsi advonse lidoba lakhe masinyane.

Mancoba wadvonsa lidoba, kwaphuma inhlanti lenkhulu lenhle. Babe Ngomane watsatsa sitfombe salenhlanti wase uyayikala.



Lidoba lababe Ngomane nalo lakhombisa  
kunyakata. Wadvonsa waphuma nabhabuli.

Ngalelo lilanga, bonkhe baya ekhaya  
baphetse tinhlanti etandleni.





Mancoba wadzabuka uma kuphela  
emalanga ekuphumula ababe Ngomane.  
Wakhumbula kutsi babe Ngomane abelusito  
kanganani kuye. Abengakjabuli kutsi  
sewutawuhamba yedvwa kuya edamini.



Wenta konkhe ngendlela babe Ngomane  
amfundzise ngakhona.

Abesakhona kubamba tinhlanti onkhe  
emalanga.





Sipho naTonkhe bamncenga kutsi abaphe  
tinhlanti. Nyalo sebayafuna kuhamba naye.  
Bafuna kufundza kuye.





Mancoba wacala licembu lekudoba. Babe Ngomane naye abengulomunye wemalunga alelicembu.



Madvute, Mancoba utsetse ligama lemdobi lodvumile endzaweni.

Itolo bekumcudzelwano wemnyaka edamini iNkhomati. Badobi basekudzeni nadvutane bafika.





Licembu laMancoba latfola indzebe nemali.  
Lamuhla batfokotela kuncoba ekhaya  
kaboMancoba.