



Umdobi wezinhlanzi



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Idamu iNkomazi laziwa kakhulu
ngezinyoka zasemanzini eziningi. Abadobi
bezinhlanzi babelithanda kakhulu lelidamu.
uNkazimulo wayengumfana waseNkanini.
Wayehlakaniphile efuna ukwazi kakhulu.
Wayefuna ukwazi yonke into.





UNkazimulo nomndeni wakhe babehlala eduze nalelidamu elikhulu elibizwa ngokuthi iNkomazi. Izakhamuzi eziningi zakulendawo zaziphila ngokudoba. Abanye babethengisa izinhlanzi emakethe, abanye badobela ukudla. Indlala yayingaziwa kulendawo yaseNkanini.



UNkazimulo naye wayefisa ukuba ngumdobi.
Wayehlala ecela ubaba wakhe ukuthi
amthengele izindobo.





Ngosuku ubaba wakhe amthengele ngalo udobo, wajabula kakhulu. Inkinga kwaba ngukuthi uyesaba ukuhamba yedwa ayodoba edamini. Wacela umngani wakhe uZonke ukuthi ahambe naye. UZonke akavumanga ukuhamba naye. Wacela uSipho kepha uSipho wathi wesaba izinyoka zasemanzini.



Uzokwenze njani? Uyafuna ukudoba ukuze asize ubaba wakhe ngokuthengisa izinhlanzi emakethe. Ufuna ngenhliziyo yakhe yonke. uNkazimulo waqjinisela wahamba yedwa ukuyodoba izinhlanzi.

Ngemuva kwesikhashana, wabona inyoka yasemanzini iza ngakuye.





Wabutha izinto zakhe, wagijima ebuyela ekhaya engenayo neyodwa inhlanzi. Ubaba wakhe wabuza ukuthi kungani engabuyanga nenhlanzi ngosuku lwakhe lokuqala. UNkazimulo wayenamahloni okusho ukuthi ubalekile ngoba ebone inyoka yasemanzini. Wathi ayikho inhlanzi esondele ngasodobeni lwakhe.



Ngakusasa uNkazimulo wavuka ekuseni kakhulu. Waya kubangani bakhe ukuyobacela ukuthi bahambe naye edamini. Abavumanga, bathi abafuni ukusondela kuleliya damu. Basaba izinyoka zasemanzini.





UNkazimulo usenkingeni. Uzohamba nobani?
Akasoze alokothe ahambe yedwa futhi.
Kepha inhliziyo yakhe ifisa ukudoba. Uzibona
engumdobi ophumelelayo kulendawo.



UMnumzane Ngomane ngumdobi
ongumakadebona. Ngosuku olulandelayo,
waqonda kuMnumzane Ngomane. Wacela
ukuhamba naye ukuyodoba izinhlanzi.
UMnumzane Ngomane wavuma. UNkazimulo
wajabula wazimisela ukubamba izinhlanzi
eziningi.





UMnumzane Ngomane wayelazi kakhulu idamu iNkomazi, njengentende yesandla sakhe. Wahamba noNkazimulo endaweni engenazo izinyoka zasemanzini. UNkazimulo wazizwa ejabulile ngalesi sinqumo.



Baphonsa izindobo zabo base bayalinda.
Udobo likaNkazimulo likhombisa
ukunyakaza. Kusho ukuthi udobo libambe
inhlanzi.





UMnumzane Ngomane watshela uNkazimulo ukuthi adonse udobo lwakhe ngokushesha.

UNkazimulo wadonsa udobo waphuma nenhlanzi enkulu enhle. UMnumzane Ngomane wathatha inhlanzi isithombe maqede wayikala.



Udobo likaMnumzane Ngomane nalo
lakhombisa ukunyakaza. Wadonsa
waphuma nobhabuli.

Ngalelo langa, bonke baphindela ekhaya
bephethe izinhlanzi.





UNkazimulo wadabuka uma kuphela izinsuku zokuphumula zikaMnumzane Ngomane. Wakhumbula ukuthi uMnumzane Ngomane ube usizo olungakanani kuye. Wayengakajabuli ukuthi usezohamba yedwa ukuya edamini.



Nakube wayeyedwa, wakhumbula konke uMnumzane Ngomane ayemtshele khona.

Wayesekwazi ukubamba izinhlanzi zonke izinsuku.



USipho noZonke bamncenga ukuba abaphe
izinhlazi. Manje sebeyafuna ukuhamba
naye. Bafuna ukufunda kuye. UNkazimulo
useyiqhawe labadobi ebanganini bakhe.





UNkazimulo waqala iqembu lokudoba.
Amalunga okuqala aleliqembu kwaba
nguZonke noSipho. UMnumzane Ngomane
naye wayengomunye wamalunga
aleliqembu.



Maduze, uNkazimulo uthathe igama lomdobi odumile endaweni.

Izolo bekungumncintiswano wonyaka edamini iNkomazi. Abadobi abavela kude naseduze bafika.





Iqembu likaNkazimulo lwathola imali eyizinkulungwane eziyisihlanu. Namuhla bathokozela ukunqoba ekhaya kubo kaNkazimulo.