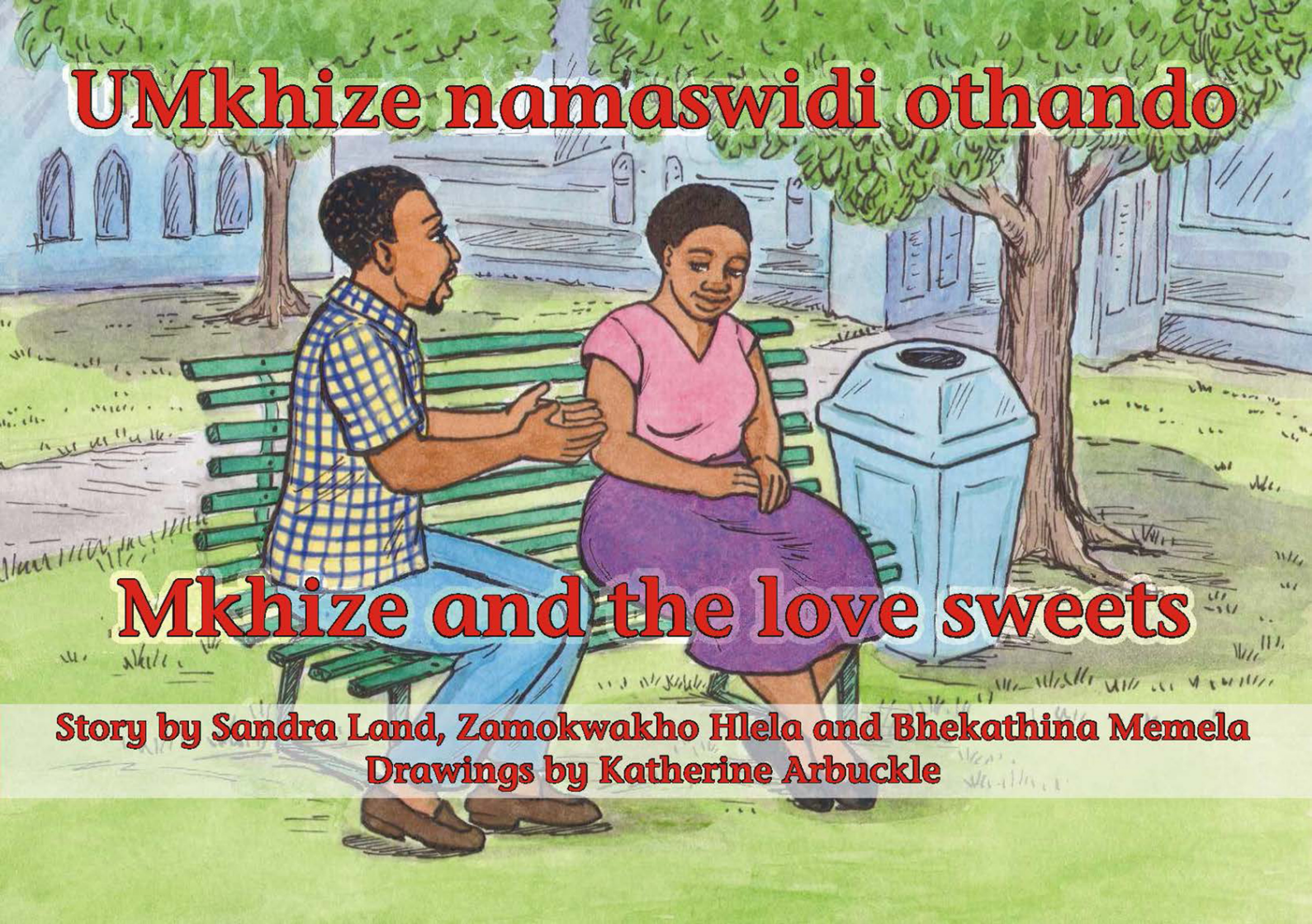




UMkhize namaswidi othando

Mkhize and the love sweets

Story by Sandra Land, Zamokwakho Hlela and Bhekathina Memela
Drawings by Katherine Arbuckle

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UMaMsomi wathola umyalezo kwiselula.



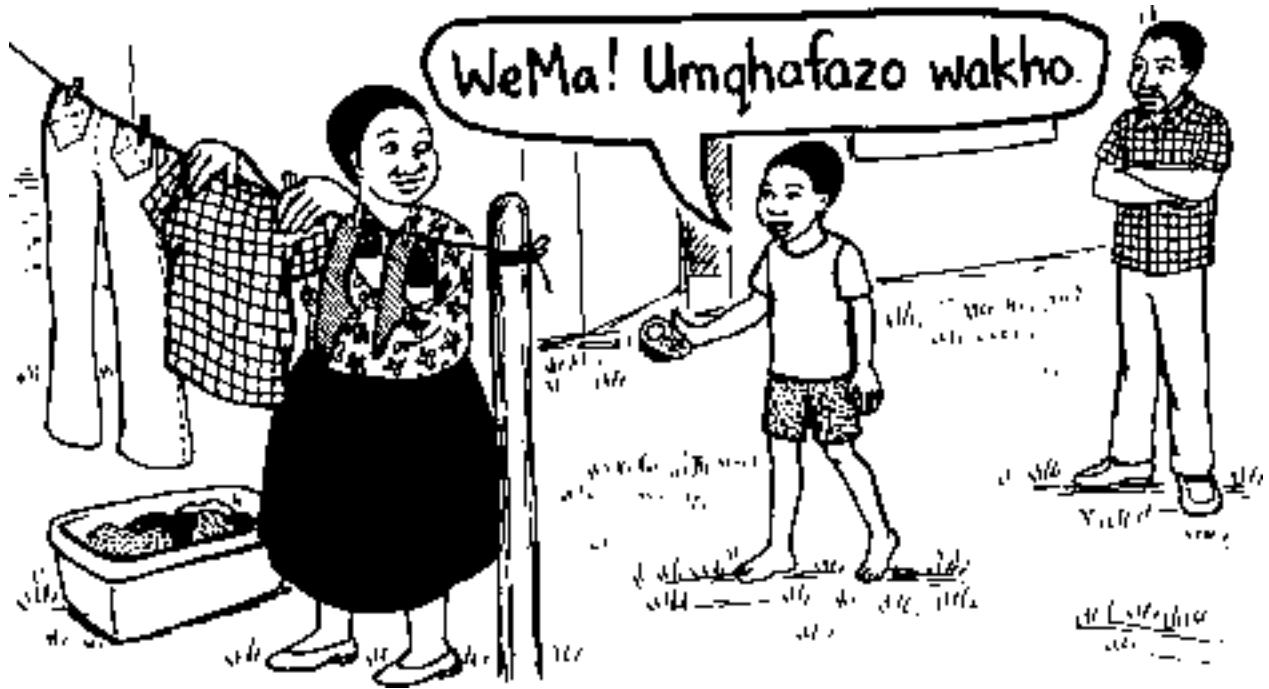
MaMsomi got an SMS on her cell phone.

UMaMsomi akavumanga ukutshela umyeni ukuthi ivelaphi umlayezo.



MaMsomi would not tell her husband who the SMS came from.

Kwangena enye umyalezo.



Another SMS came in.

UMkhize wasola.



Mkhize was suspicious. He thought that people were going against him.

UMkhize wabona inkosikazi ikhulumela phansi
nomakhelwane



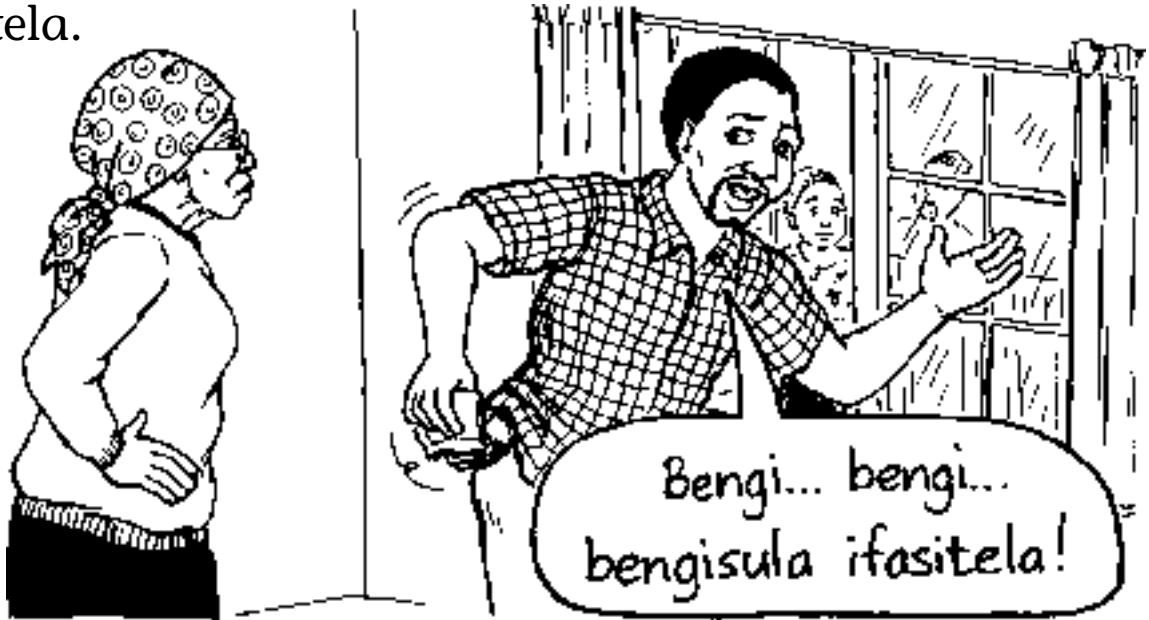
Mkhize saw his wife talking quietly to the neighbour.

UGogo wambamba ezama ukulalela efasiteleni.



Granny caught him trying to listen at the window.
She asked him what he was doing.

UMkhize wazama ukuchazela uGogo ukuthi ubesula ifasitela.



Mkhize tried to tell Granny that he was cleaning the window.

UGogo waqala ukusola uMkhize.



Granny was suspicious of Mkhize. She said he never washed windows.

Ukungathembani kwaqhubeka kwaMkhize.



The Mkhizes went on suspecting one another.

UMaMsomi wahlebela izingane ngemfihlo yakhe.



MaMsomi whispered to the children about her secret.
She told them to say nothing.

Ntambama kwafika abantu kwaMkhize.



In the evening, people arrived at the Mkhizes' house.
They congratulated Mkhize, but he was confused.

UMaMsomi wenza inkulumo.



MaMsomi made a speech. They had been married for fifteen years.

Umcimbi wakwaMkhize waqhubeka.



The Mkhize's party was on the go. MaMsomi said she loved her husband.

Kwadliwa kwajatshulwa.



Everybody ate and drank and was happy. They all said
“Cheers!”

UMaMsomi noMkhize badansa.



MaMsomi and Mkhize danced.

Ngasemaphethelweni omcimbi abantu babuza uMkhize no MaMsomi ukuthi bahlangana kanjani.



At the end of the party, people asked Mkhize and MaMsomi how they got together.

UMkhize waqala ukuxoxa ngendaba yakhe yokuhlangana noMaMsomi okokuqala.



Mkhize started telling his story of how he and MaMsomi first met.

Ngangigqoke kahle ngiyiqala umsebenzi wami
wokuqala ngqa...



I was dressed very well because I was on my way to start
my first job...

Esitobhini kwakukhona intombi enhle kunazo zonke
engake ngazibona...



At the stop I saw the most beautiful girl I had ever seen...

Ngaba nesu elihlakaniphile lokuziveza kulentombi...



I had a clever plan for showing myself off to this girl...

UMaMsomi wayiphika indaba yomyeni wakhe.



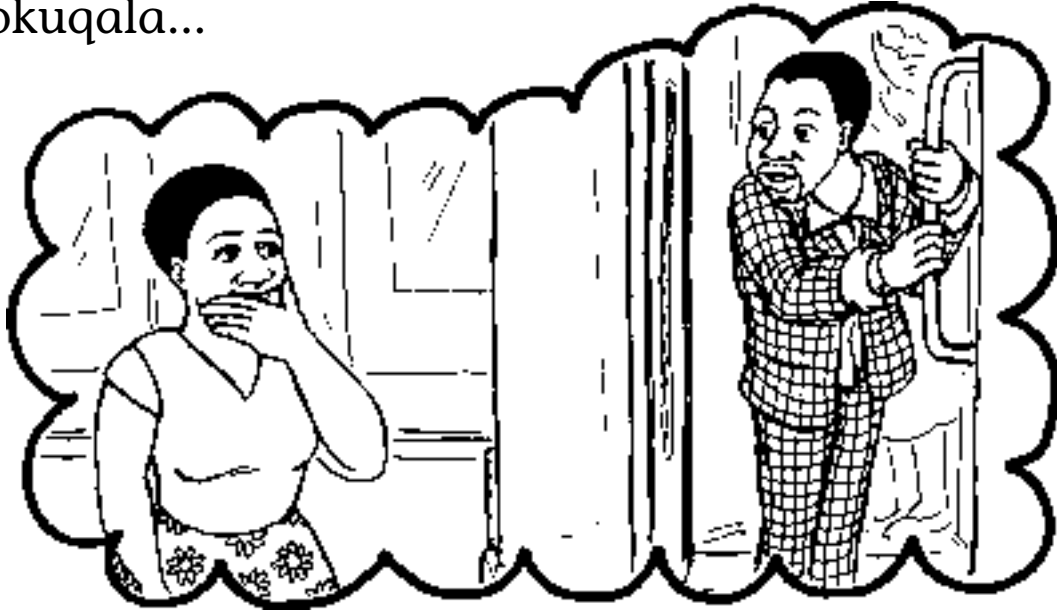
MaMsomi disagreed with her husband's story. She told Mkhize he did not remember well.

Esitobhini, kwadilika umuntu ogqoke oqophs!



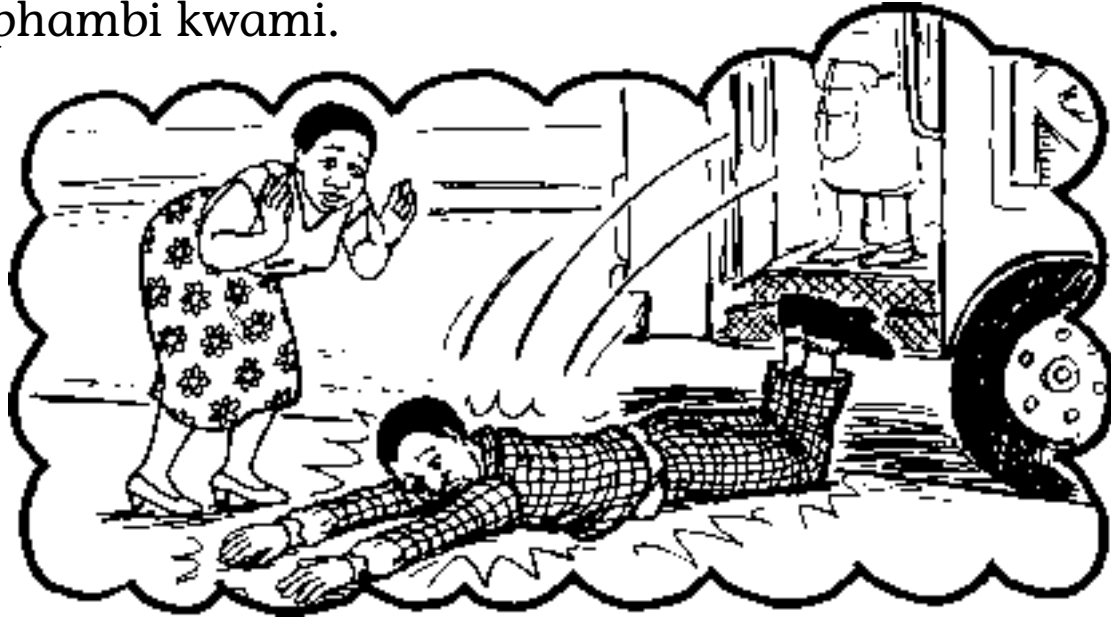
At the bus stop, a man wearing funny short trousers nearly fell off the bus.

Amehlo ayevuleke okomuntu ebona idolobha
okokuqala...



His eyes were open wide, like someone seeing a town for
the first time...

Wahlulwa izitebhisi, ngezwa ngento isithi dinsi!
phambi kwami.



He fell over the steps, and I heard something falling
down right in front of me.

Abantu bambuza uMaMsomi ukuthi wamsiza yini
uMkhize uma esewe ebhasini.



The people asked MaMsomi if she helped Mkhize when
he fell off the bus.

UMaMsomi wathi wamshiya.



MaMsomi said she just left him. She said she thought he was a drunk man.

UMkhize wathi indaba ayigcinanga lapho.



Mkhize said the business didn't end there. Mkhize said he got up and ran after the girl.

Waqhubeka waqhosha ngobunsizwa bakhe.



He boasted that he was an attractive young man.
Mkhize said “I knew I’d get her to marry me.”

Emveni kwesigigaba sokuqala, uMkhize akaphelanga esitobhini.



After that, Mkhize was always at the bus stop.

Suku lumbe uMkhize waba nesu elihle elingamsiza.



One day Mkhize had a good plan that would help him.

Wathenga into eyayizomsiza ukushela intombi.



He bought something to help him court MaMsomi.

Ekhaya, uMkhize wahluleka ukukhetha uswidi oshaya khona.



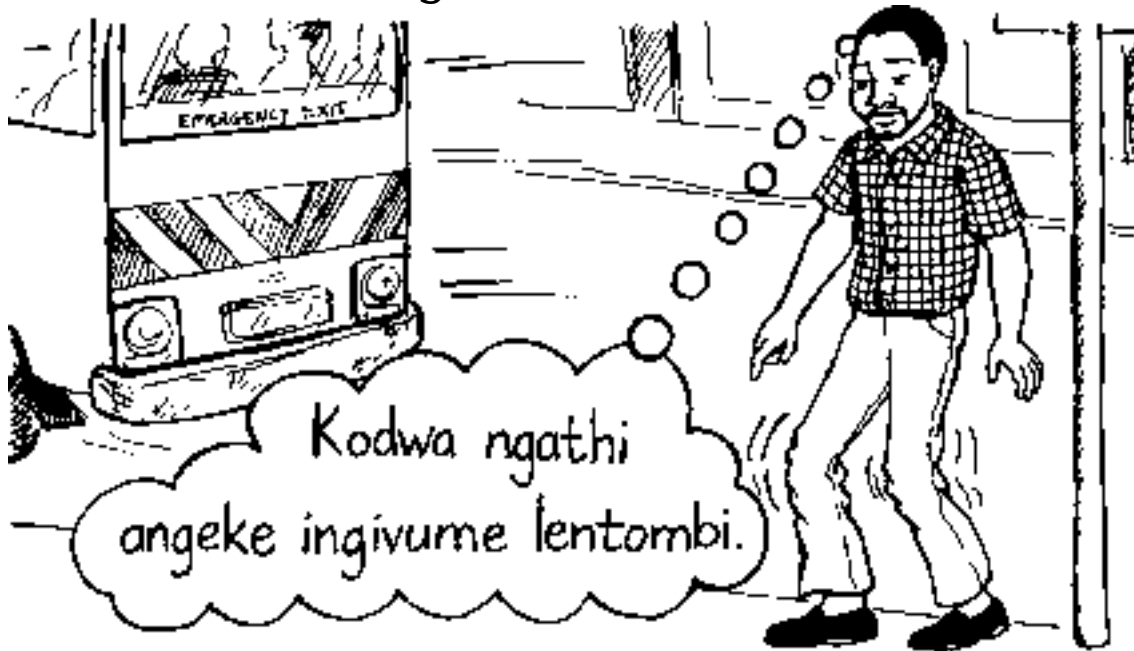
At home, Mkhize was worried. He couldn't choose which Zulu Motto sweet to give MaMsomi.

Isu likaMkhize kwakuwukushela ngokusebenzisa iZulu mothozi.



Mkhize's plan was to court MaMsomi using Zulu Motto sweets.

Esitobhini kwakushayana amadolo kuMkhize.



At the stop, Mkhize's knees were knocking. He thought MaMsomi would not let him court her.

Kodwa wathinta oswidi ekhukhwini, kwagqina idolo.



But he felt the sweets in his pocket and his knees were firm. He decided not to speak.

Wamnika uMaMsomi uswidi, wasubatha ngejubane.



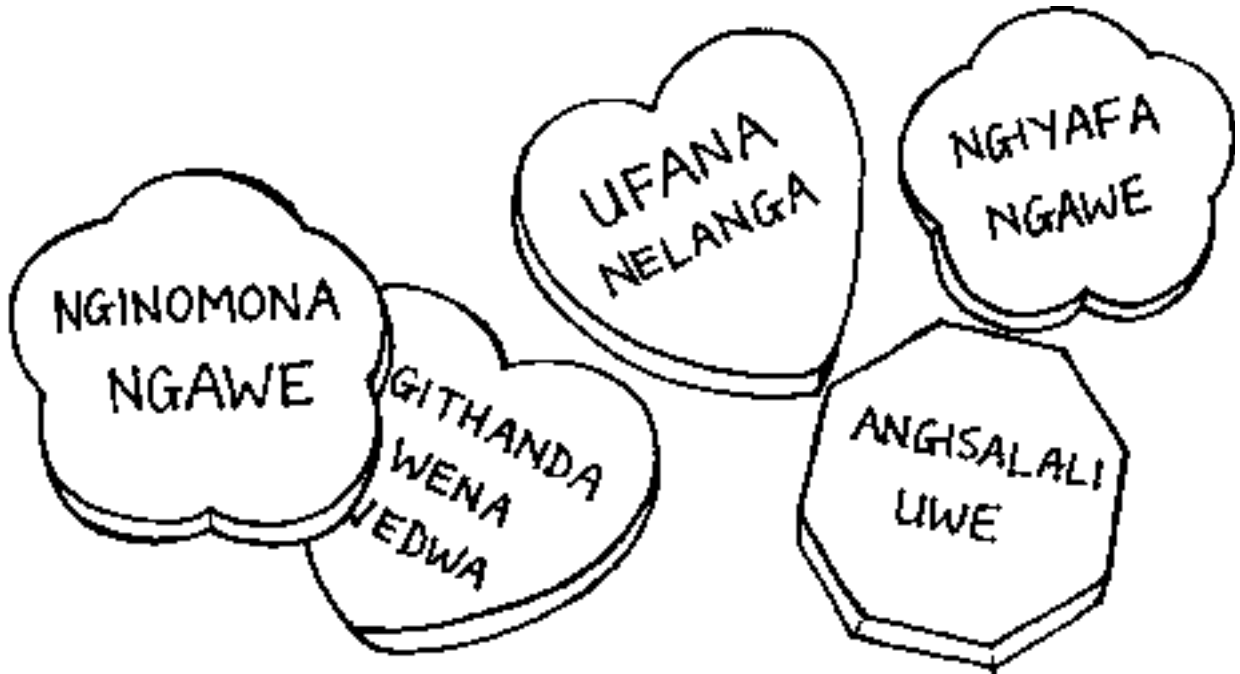
He gave MaMsomi a sweet and just ran away.

Ngemuva kwalolo suku, uMaMsomi wathola uswidi zonke izinsuku.



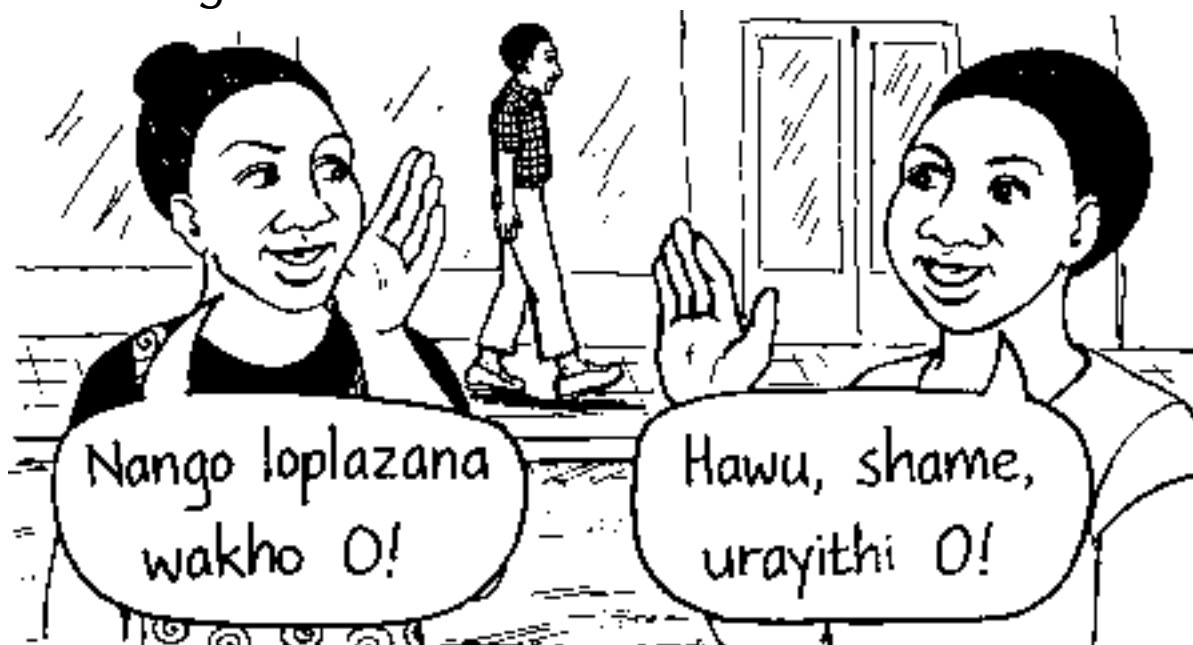
After that MaMsomi got a sweet every day.

UMaMsomi wavezela umngani wakhe bonke oswidi.



She showed her friend all the sweets.

Baxoxa ngoMkhize.



They talked about Mkhize. The friend called him a funny farm guy. MaMsomi said he was okay.

Esikhaleni kwaqhamuka nsizwa yimbe.



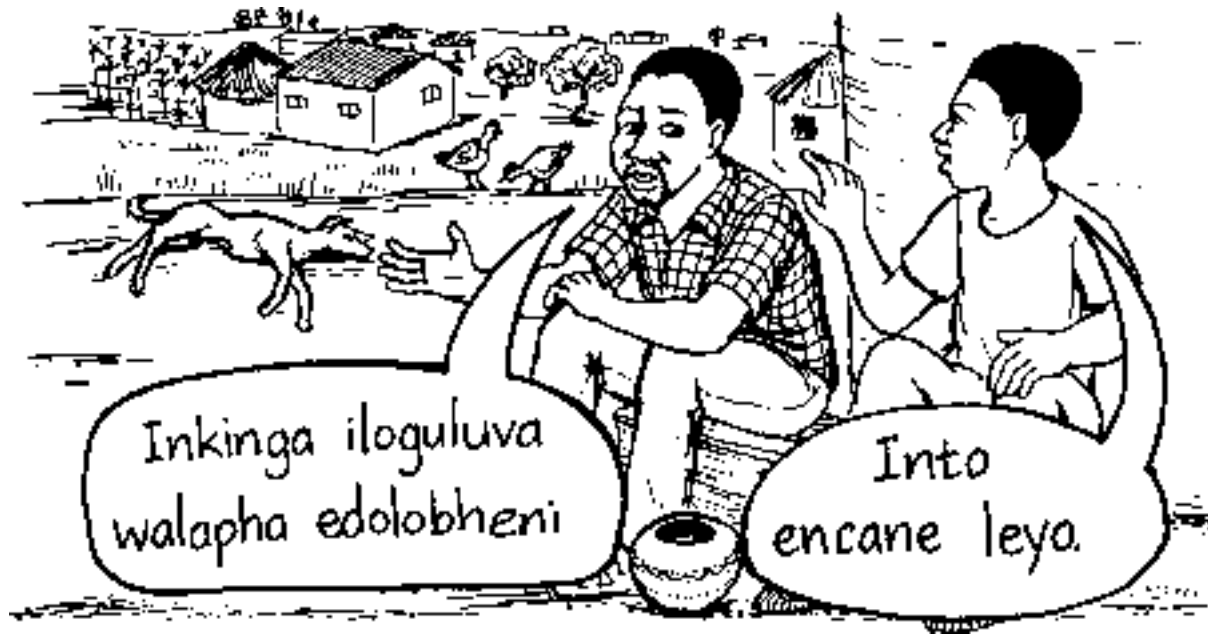
Suddenly another young guy appeared. He flirted with MaMsomi.

UMkhize waphatheka kabi ngenxa yembali yakhe.



Mkhize felt bad about his rival. He thought "I must do something..."

Waxoxela umngani wakhe ngenkinga yakhe.



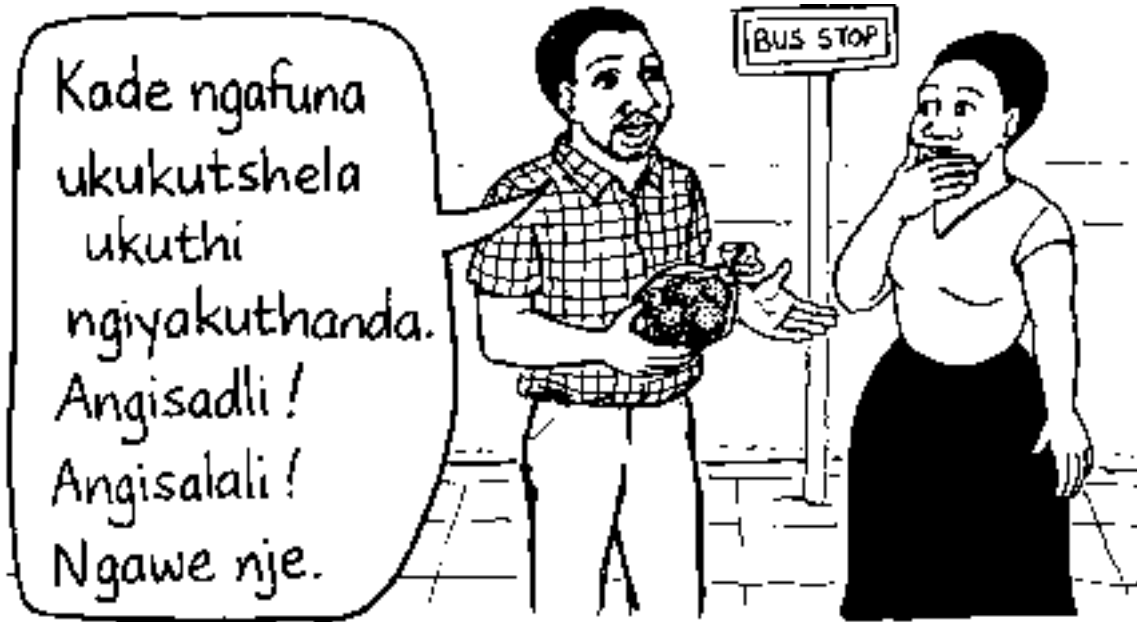
He talked to a friend about his problem. The friend said it was just a small thing.

Umngani wamluleka.



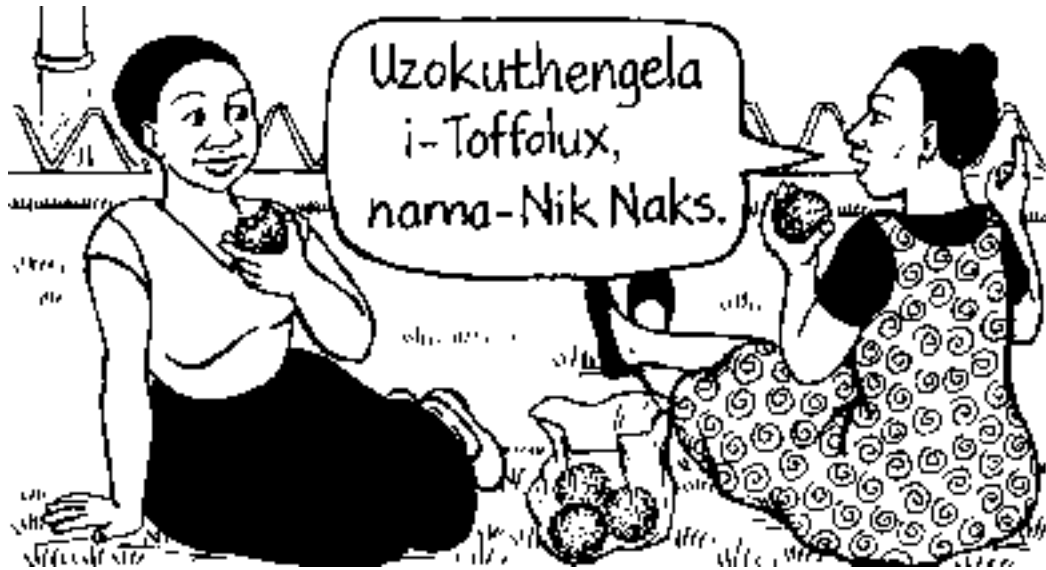
His friend advised him. He said “Talk to her. Buy her snowballs. Look in her eyes. Tell her she is beautiful.”

UMkhize wahlangana noMaMsomi.



Mkhize met MaMsomi. He said “I love you. I can’t eat! I can’t sleep! Just because of you!”

Umngani kaMaMsomi wathi akamsebenzise uMkhize
ukuze athole izinto ezimnandi.



MaMsomi's friend said that she should use Mkhize to
get nice things.

Akavumanga uMaMsomi.



MaMsomi would not do that. She said she really liked Mkhize.

UMkhize wabuza uMaMsomi ukuthi umiphi ngaye.



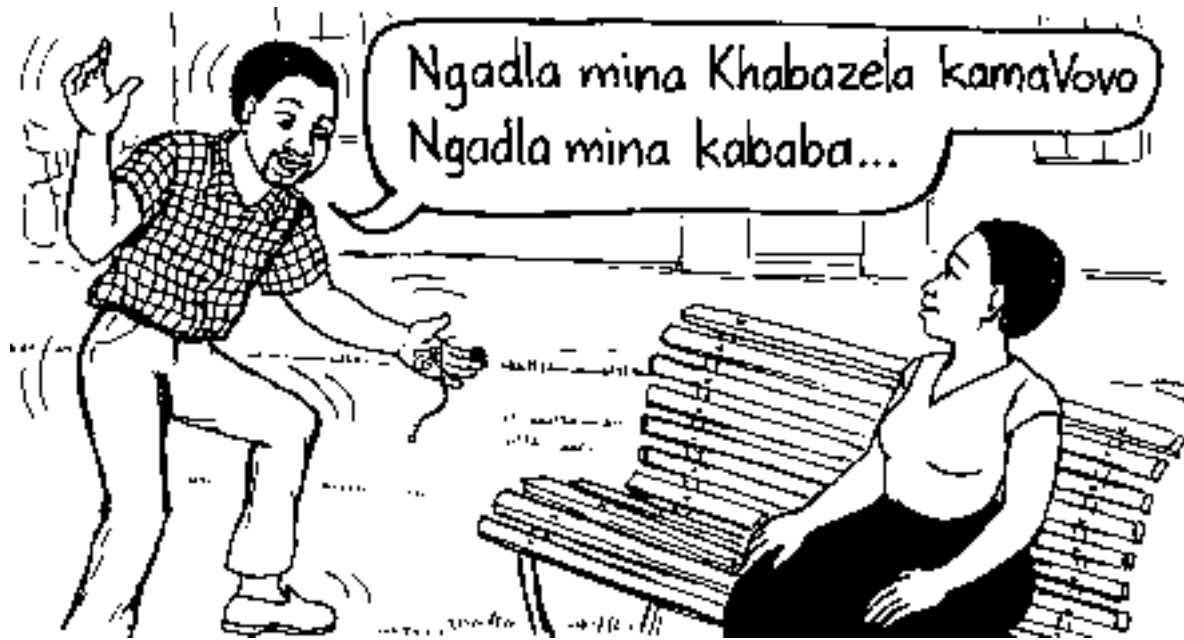
Mkhize asked MaMsomi where he stood with her. He asked her to give him beads to show she loved him.

Nangempela wamnika ucu.



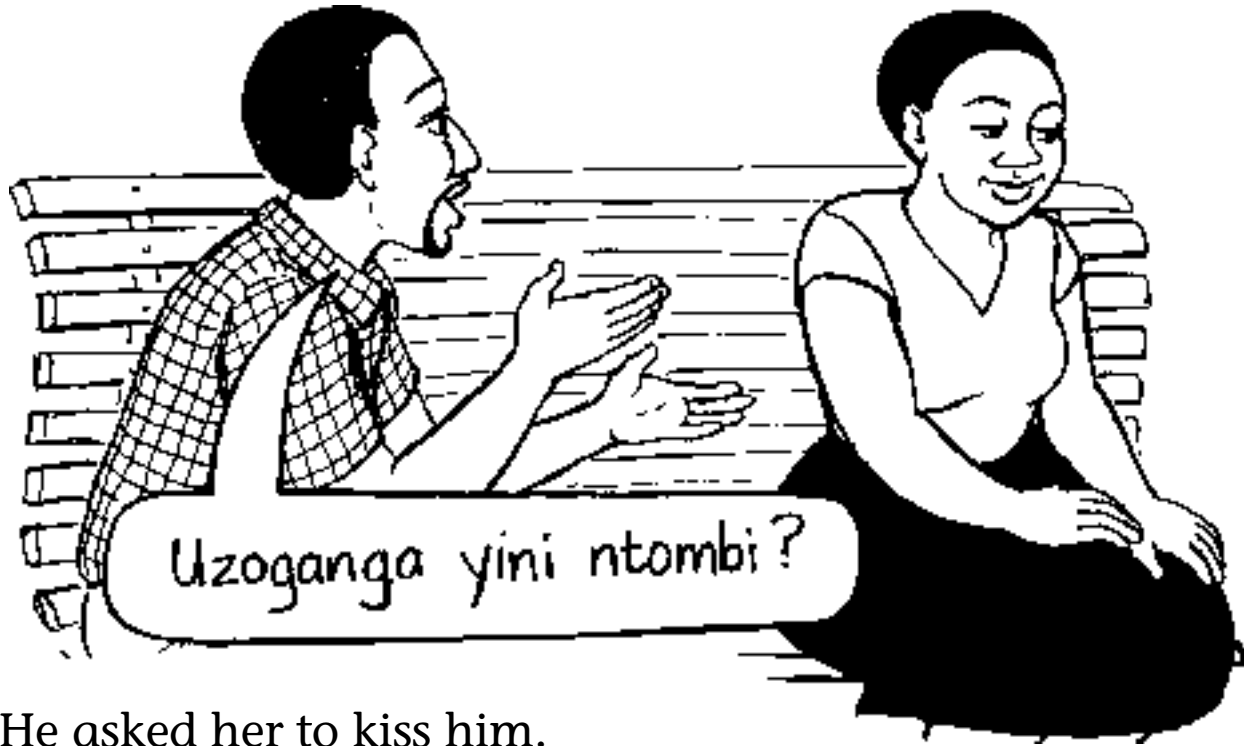
And truly, she gave him a bead necklace to show that she loved him.

Wagiya uKhabazela ebonga ucu.



Mkhize danced because he was so happy to get the necklace. He praised himself.

Wacela ukuba amange.



He asked her to kiss him.

Kwaba negidigidi ngokuqonywa kukaMkhize.



There was great excitement about Mkhize's success.

Iduku lasha lafakwa kwaMkhize.



The flag was quickly put up at the Mkhize home.
Mkhize's father was happy. He had thought they would need to slaughter a goat before Mkhize got a girlfriend.

Ekhaya, uMkhize wakhuluma nogogo ngeduku.



Mkhize talked with his grandmother about the flag. She said if it bent towards the home, MaMsomi would be his wife. But if it bent away, she would not.

Ukugoba kweduku kwamkhathaza uMkhize.



This bending of the flag really worried Mkhize.

Kusempondo zankomo, uMkhize wabona iduku
ligobela ngaphandle



Very early in the morning, Mkhize saw that the flag was
bending away from the house.

UMkhize wazama iqhinga lakhe.



Mkhize tried his plan. He said when the family woke up the flag would point to the house.

Ekuseni uyise kaMkhize wabheka iduku ukuthi ligobele ngakuphi.



In the morning Mkhize's father looked at the flag to see which way it bent.

Kodwa umfowabo wabona okunye.



Mkhize's brother noticed the fishing line. Mkhize said the ancestors must have used it.

Kwaba isiphetho sokuhlangana kukaMaMsomi noMkhize.



So that was the story of how MaMsomi met Mkhize.

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