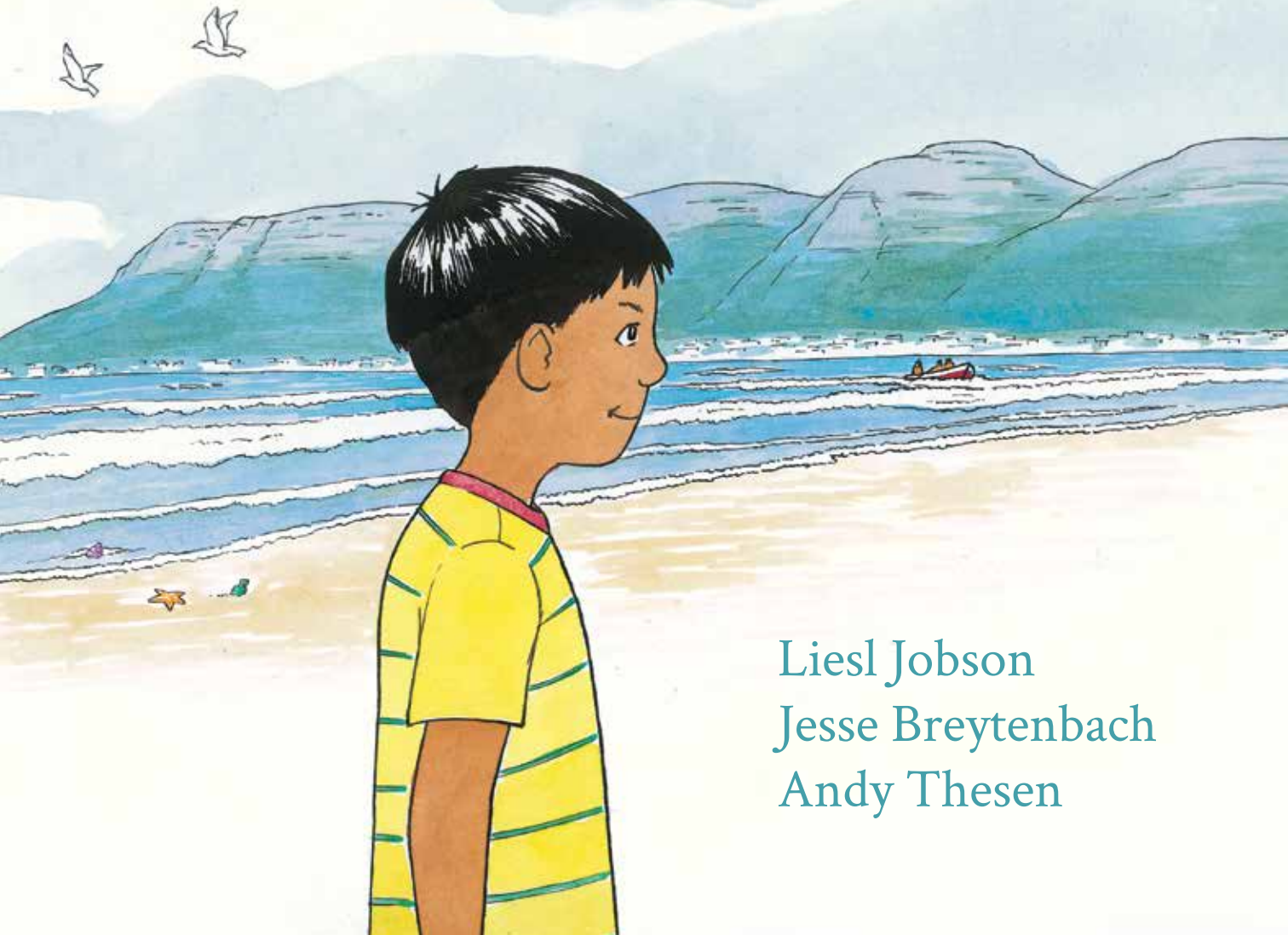


Hlapi le mpho



Liesl Jobson
Jesse Breytenbach
Andy Thesen

Hlapi le mpho

Puku ye ke ya





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Ka Labohlano le lengwe leo le kgethegilego, tatago Yusuf o ile a apara pele seetša se tlala lefaufaung. O ile a tšea jase ya gagwe ya serobaphefo le mongatse wa wulu o motalamorogo wa go khupetša ditsebe tša gagwe. O ile a dumediša morwa wa gagwe ka go emiša seatla e le ge a re a šale gabotse. Mahlo a Yusuf a ile a taga ge Papa a re, “Lehono ke letšatši le ke tla swarago hlapi ka lona gomme ka go tlela yona mo gae bjalo ka mpho.”



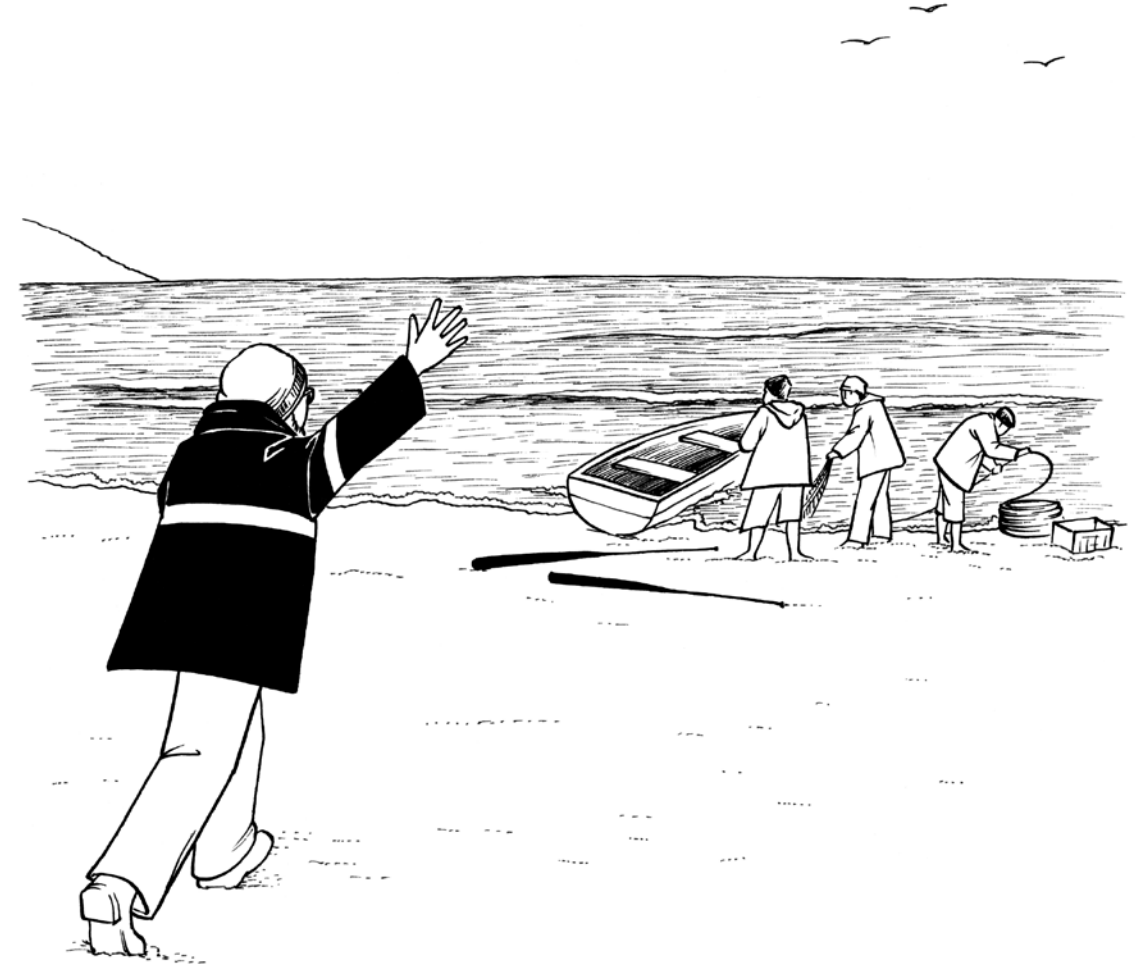
Hlapi le mpho? Ee, e tla ba eng? Papa o ile a ya Lebopong la Muizenberg ka paesekele. Tswitswii, tswitswii ge maotwana a eya Sekhutlwaneng sa Basesi.

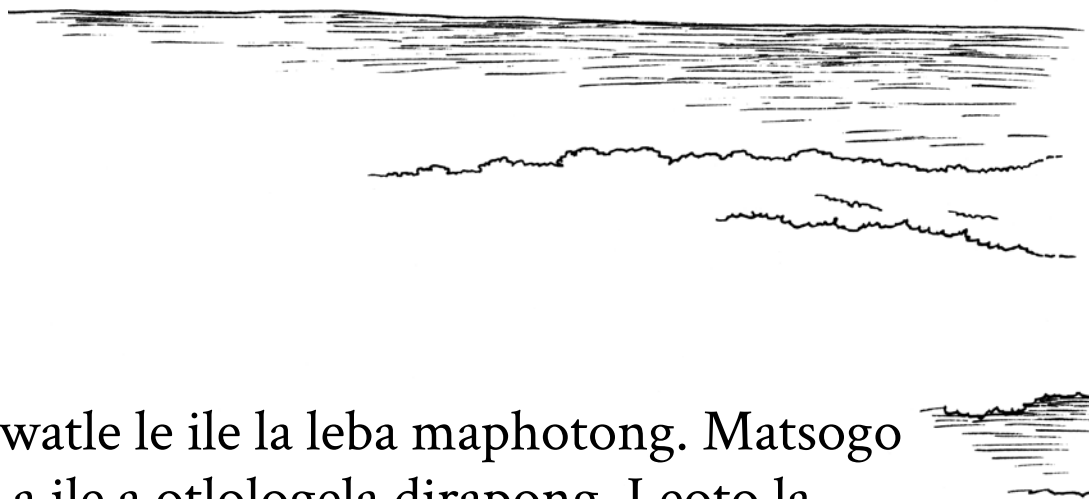
Dinonyana tša Lewatleng tša dikologa lefaufau. “Eeeng? Eeeng? Eeeng?” tša lla. “Naa o tla tlela Yusuf eng?”

Tate o ile a letša tšhipi ya gagwe. “Emang le bone gore ke tla tla le eng!”



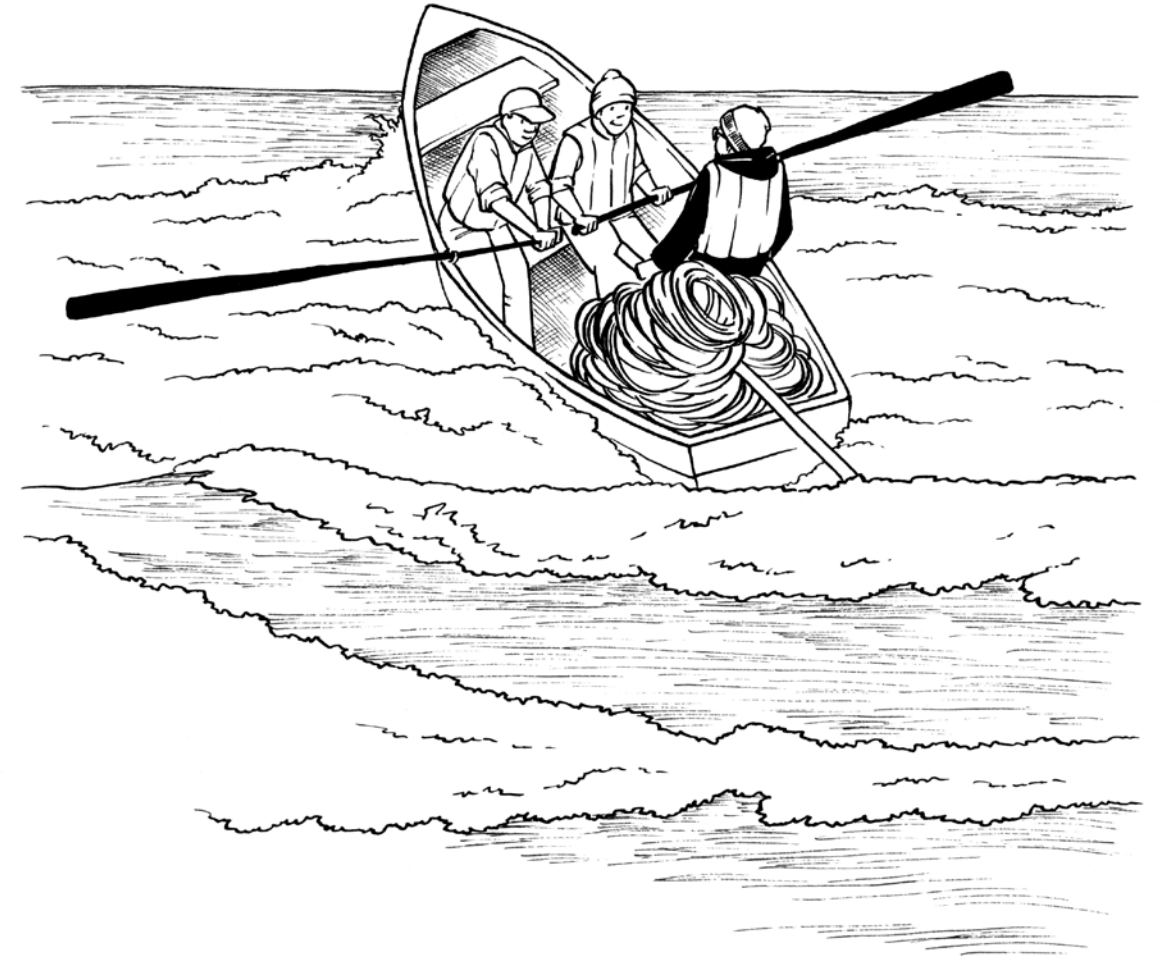
Bathei ba dihlapi ba ile ba bogela letšatši ge
le hlaba. Ba ile ba lekola malokwa a bona. Ba
lekola dirapo tša bona. Ba theeletša phefo.
Ba gogela maselawatle a bona ka meetseng.
Rakgolo wa Yusuf, Oupa Salie, e be e le setsebi
sa go thea dihlapi. Pele ga gagwe, tatagwe,
Oupagrootjie Ridwaan, le yena o be a tseba
lewatle kudu.





Leselawatle le ile la leba maphotong. Matsogo a Tate a ile a otlologela dirapong. Leoto la gagwe la ya ka thoko. Molala wa gagwe o ile wa phetlega, dinama tša mokokotlo wa gagwe tša thatafala.

Tate o be a opela ge a dutše a šoma, “Lahlela o goge. Hwetša hlapi. Goga o ntšhe. O se eme.”



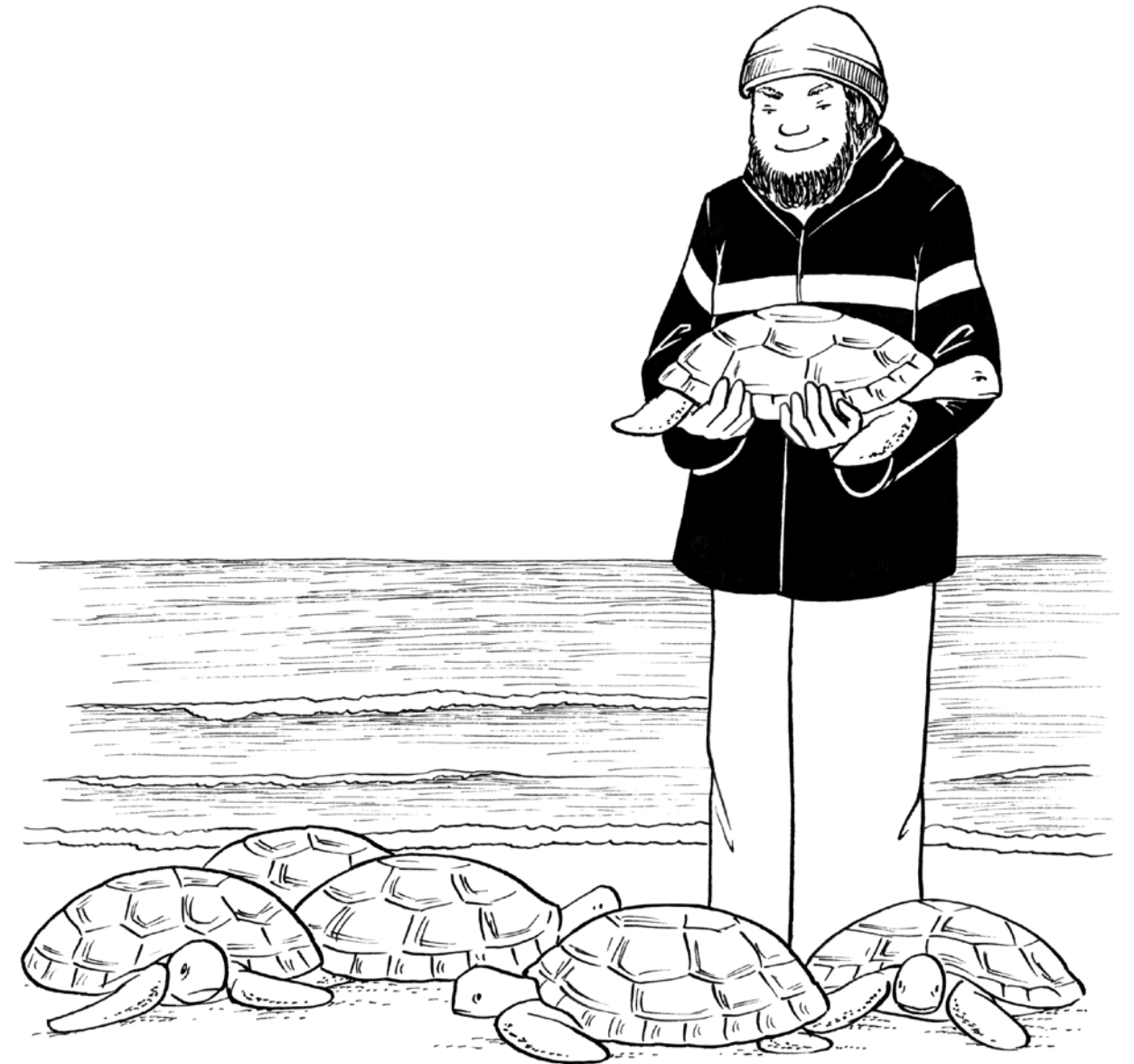
Yusuf o ile a lebelela lefaufaung letšatši ka moka. Go hlwekile go na le seetša ebile ga go na phefo. Hlapi le mpho! Tate o tla tla le eng go tšwa lewatleng? Ka nako ye nngwe o tla le kgopa ye botse. Ka nako ye nngwe o tla le lebotlelo la botalamorogo-bja-go-benya leo le tšokoditšwego ke maphoto.



Ka matsatši a mangwe tatago Yusuf o tla le kanegelo. Go swana le nako ye ba go hwetša dikhudu tša lewatele mohlabeng, tše makgolokgolo tša go gašaganywa ke ledimo.

“Eeeng? Eeeng? Eeeng?” gwa lla dinonyana tša lewatleng. “Naa o ka thuša dikhudu bjang?”

Tate a re, “Re bolokile dikhudu tše, ke a go botša. Re di rometše morago lewatleng, le ya mafelelo.”





Ka mehla Tate o tla le koša. O opela koša ge a goga dirapo. O opela koša ge a goga dinete. O opela koša ge a bofa dithapo. O opela koša ge a reila paesekele a eya gae. “Lahlela o goge. Hwetša hlapi. Goga o ntšhe. O se eme.”

Ouma Safiya o nyaka go lalela ka hlapi ya mosela o mo serolane ya go nona ye botse. Mma o nyaka roko ye mpsha.

“O se itire setlaela,” a realo Ouma. “O ka ba mahlatsa ge ba ka swara le ge e ka ba letlapakgerere le lennyane. Gantši e ba Labohlano la mosela wa hlapi. Ga go sa šetše dihlapa tše dintši ka lewatleng.”

Yusuf o ile a swara seatla sa Ouma. Ba ile ba tshela tsela mafelong a go hlapa.

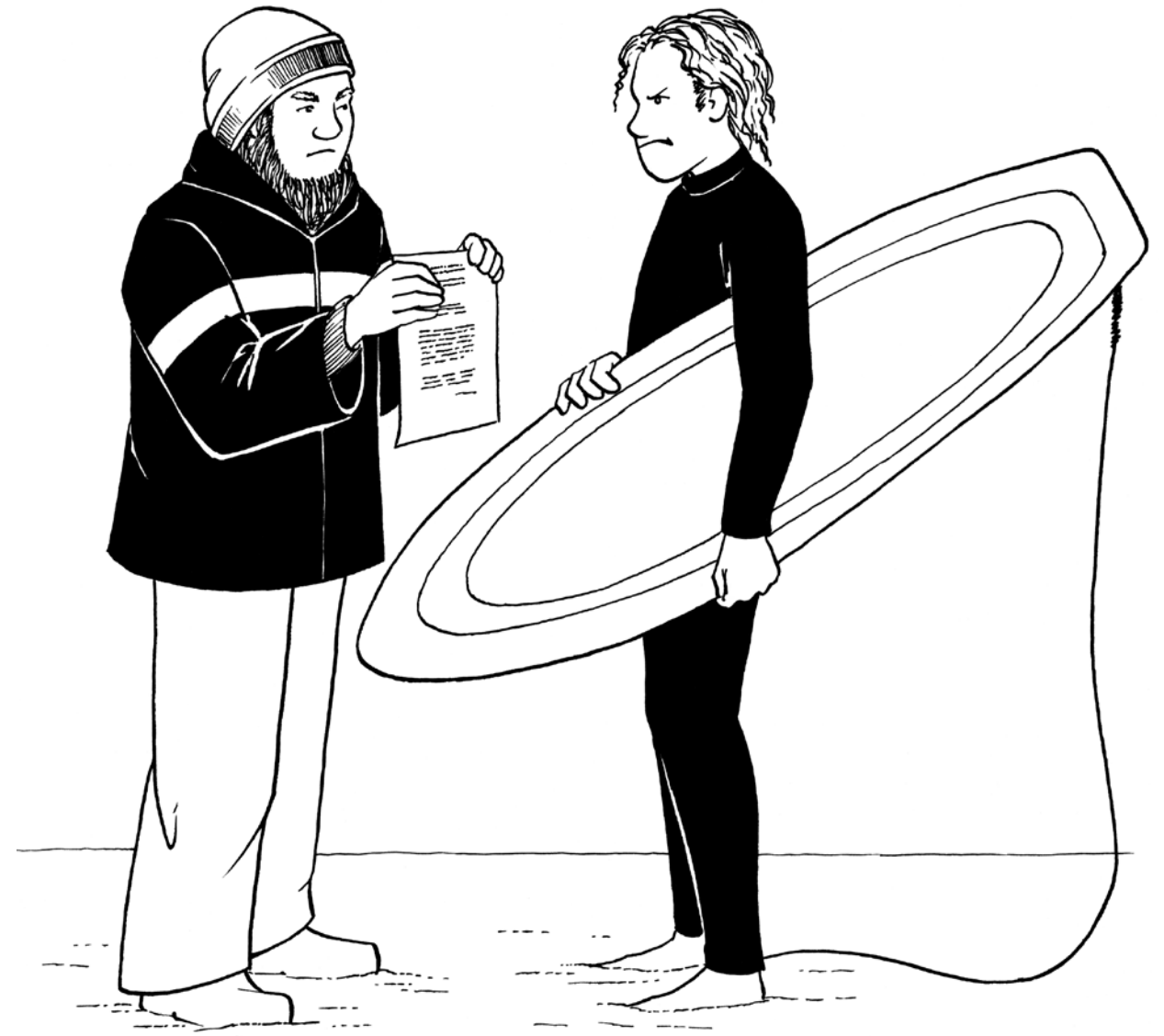
“Eeeng? Eeeng? Eeeng?” gwa lla dinonyana tša lewatleng di dutše marulelong a go kganya. “Go jewa eng mathapama?”



Ngwaga wa go feta bathei ba dihlapi ba ile ba lwa le basesi.

“Eeeng? Eeeng? Eeeng?” gwa lla dinonyana tša lewatleng.

“Lewatle ke le legolo kudu go na le sekgoba sa batho bohle,” a realo tatago Yusuf. O ile a bontšha basesi laesense ya go thea dihlapi ya Oupa Salie. “Maphoto ke a bohle. Meetse ke mahala.”



Ouma Safiya o be a bogetše ka sebontšhakgakala sa gagwe, o be a tloga a nyaka go bona. Disaerine tša dišaka di ile tša lla. Baruthi ba ile ba kitimela mohlabeng ba tšea ditoulo tša bona. Basesi ba ile ba kitimela mabopong, ba rwele diboto tša bona ka makwafeng. Ba ile ba hlobola diaparo tša bona tša go thapa ba eme ka tlase ga dišawara.

“Eeeng? Eeeng? Eeeng?” gwa lla dinonyana tša lewatleng. “Tatago Yusuf o tla tla le eng go tšwa lewatleng?”



Tatago Yusuf le malome le batswala ba be ba hemelana le go goga. Go tantšwe šaka ye nnyane. E ile ya inyokanyoka ya itšhikinya. Tatago Yusuf o ile a bofolla dinete, a opelela šaka, “Lahlela o goge. Hwetša hlapi. Goga o ntšhe. O se eme.”

Šaka e rile go lokologa ya fofela gape maphotong, ya tlogela fela mosela o mo serolane wa go nona. Ouma Safiya o tla thaba.



Banna ba ile ba gogela leselawatle ka meetseng gomme ba bofa dithapo. Khutlotharo ye šweu ya bothata e ile ya swara monwana wa Tate.

“Eeeng? Eeeng? Eeeng?” gwa lla dinonyana tša lewatleng. “O tletše Yusuf eng?”

E rile ge letšatši le sobela, Tate a araba dinonyana tša lewatleng, “Ke tletše morwa wa ka leino la šaka la mahlatse.”

Yusuf kua gae a emišetša mpho ya gagwe godimo dinaleding.



