UNtombi ubhaqa isela

NguCleopatra Mhlanga

“Ngubani othathe isacholo sam” kubuza uMama.

“Bendisisishiye kule ndawo, ngoku asikho.”

UNtombi uncedisa umama bakhangela Isacholo yonke indlu.

Kodwa wayengasiboni naphi.

“Ngubani othathe imali yam?” kubuza uTata.

“Bendishiye itshintshi eziinkozo kule ndawo, ngoku ayikho.”

UNtombi uncedisa utata bakhangela itshintshi indlu yonke.

Kodwa wayengayiboni naphi.

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“Ngubani othathe imbasa yam,” kubuza ubhuti.

“Bendiyishiye kule ndawo, ngoku ayikho.”

UNtombi uncedisa ubhuti bakhangela imbasa yonke indlu.

Kodwa wayengayiboni naphi.

“Ngubani othathe icici lam?” kubuza usisi.
“Bendilishiye kule ndawo, ngoku alikho.”

UNtombi uncedisa usisi bakhangela icici yonke indlu.

Kodwa wayengaliboni naphi.

UTata utsalela amapolisa umnxeba. Afika amapolisa. Agubhulula ekhangela phantsi naphezulu. Abhuqa ekhangela ekunene nasekhohlo.

“Asiziboni izinto ezilahlekiyo. Asiliboni nesela. Akukho mizila yaminwe kungeko namkhondo,” atsho amapolisa.

“Ndiza kuzifumana ezi zinto zilahlekileyo. Kunjalo nje ndiza kulifumana nesela,” utshilo uNtombi.

Wagubhulula ekhangela phezulu naphantsi. Wabhuqa ekhangela ekunene nasekhohlo. Waya kukhangela phandle, walibhaqa isela.

“Naliya isela,” watsho uNtombi esalatha ngefestile.

Kumthi okufutshane kwakuhleli intaka

yase-Indiya ekuthiwa yiMyna.   Indlwane yayo yayizele izinto ezibengezelayo.

“YayiyiMyna! Yiyo loo nto kungekho mizila yaminwe neyeenyawo,” atsho amapolisa.

“Wenze kakuhle, Ntombi!” kwatsho wonke umntu. “Ulibhaqile isela!”