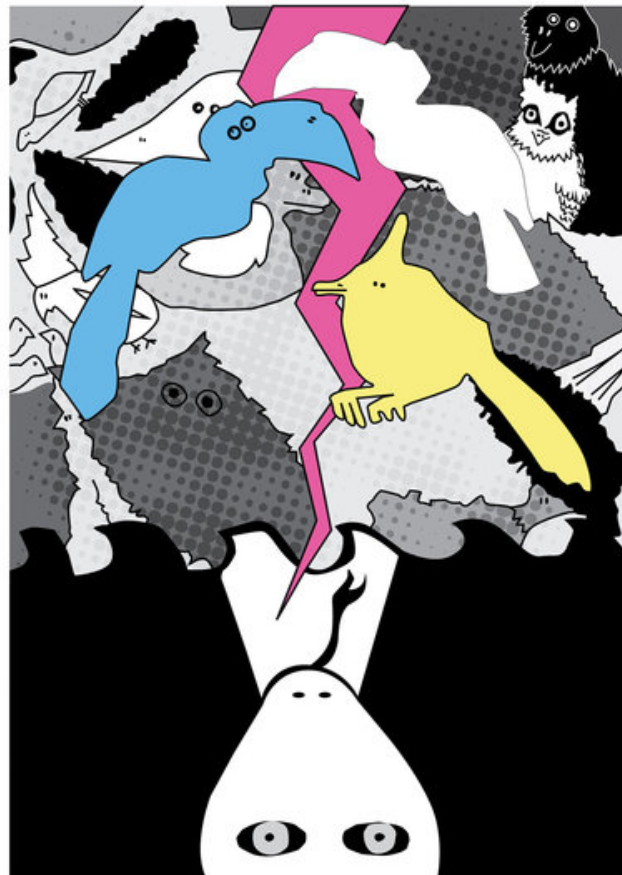
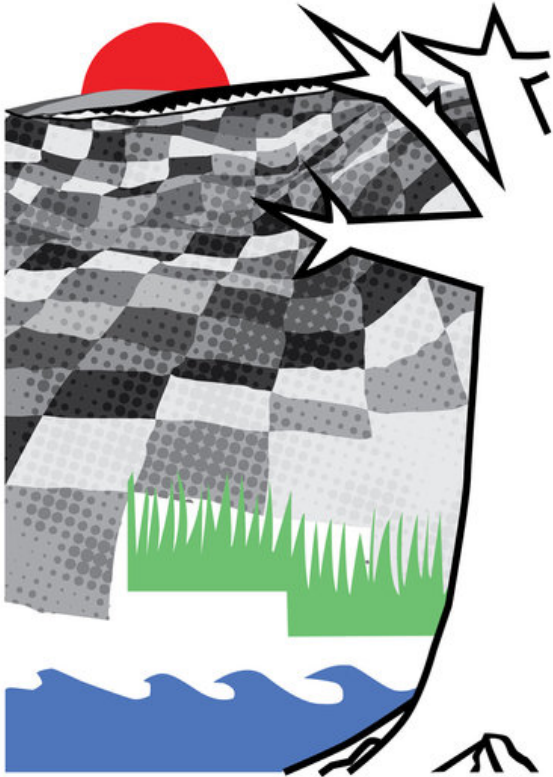


# Indoda yokuqala nomfazi wokuqala

Southern African Folktale  
isiZulu





Emandulo umhlaba usemusha, izintaba  
zazemboze umhlaba njengengubo,  
nezihlahla ezinde zikhombe  
isibhakabhaka.

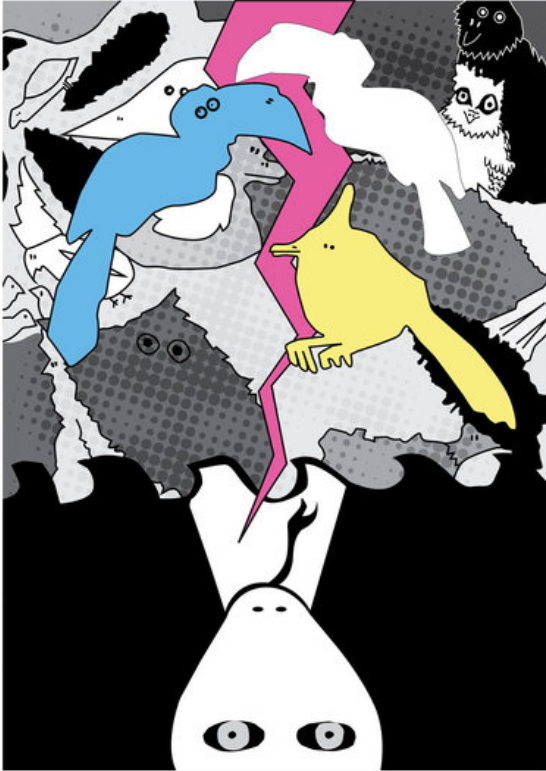
Kulomhlaba kwakukhona idamu  
elishonayo elimnyama, elithule futhi  
elibandayo.



Ekujuleni kwalelidamu  
kwakuhlala izinyoka  
ezimbili.

Enye incane, enye inkulu.





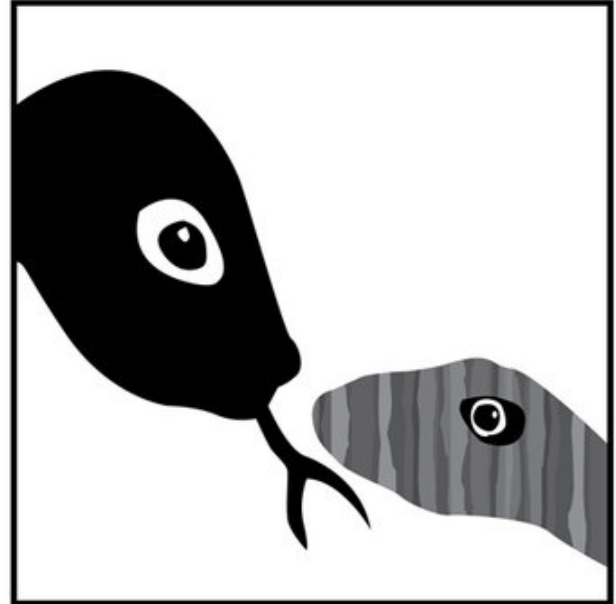
Kwathi ngelinye ilanga kwaba nemvula enkulu.

Imibani yayigejana ngaphansi edamini. Amanzi athi ukhluhana isikhashana.

Izinyoka zabona umhlaba ngaphezulu, imibala yawo , ukuma kwawo kanye nezilwane nabantu.

Ngesikhathi amanzi evaleka futhi, izinyoka azibukhohlwanga ubuhle ezibubonile.

“Ngeke sisakwazi ukuhlala kuleli damu elimnyama, elibandayo manje,” zixoxa. “Asikhuphuke siyobona umhlaba ngaphezulu.”  
“Sizophila kanjani emhlabeni?” kusho inyoka encane. “Sizokhasa ngezisu zethu?”





“Izinyoni zomoya ngeke zisihleke ngokuhambela phansi kwethu,” kusho umngani wakhe. “Ngeke sikhase, sizo hamba!”

Kancane kancane izinyoka zaziqaa. Ngokusondelana ndawonye zaqala ukubhukuda zikhuphuka ziyaphezulu ekukhanyeni.

Uma zifika phezulu emanzini, kwenzeka into engajwayelekile.

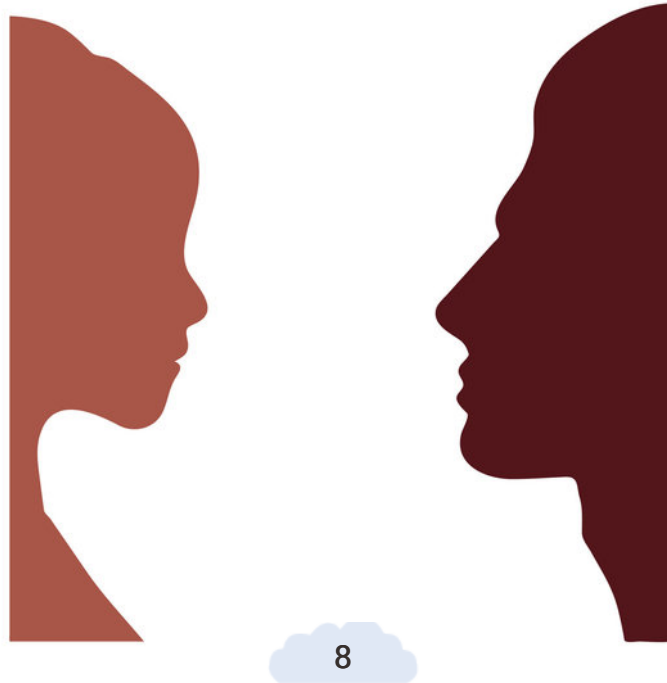
Imisila yazo yehlukana kabili-kwaba nemilenze kanye nezinzwane.

Ngaphansi kwamakhanda kwakhula izingalo ezimbili ezinezandla neminwe.





Base bengasezona izinyoka, kodwa sekuyindoda nomfazi.



“Sizo kwakha ikhaya lethu emagqumeni,” kusho umfazi. “Njalo ekuseni sizobona ukuphuma kwelanga sizwe ukufudumala kwalo emihlane yethu.”



“Woza,” kusho indoda yokuqala. “Ngiyeza,” kusho umfazi wokuqala.  
Bahamba ndawonye emhlabeni wabo omusha.



# Indoda yokuqala nomfazi wokuqala

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Translated By: Phumy Zikode

Language: isiZulu



The inspiration for this retelling came from Diana Pitcher's version of the folktale In The Calabash Child: African Folktales (Skilton & Shaw, 1980).

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