



VAN AGGELEN

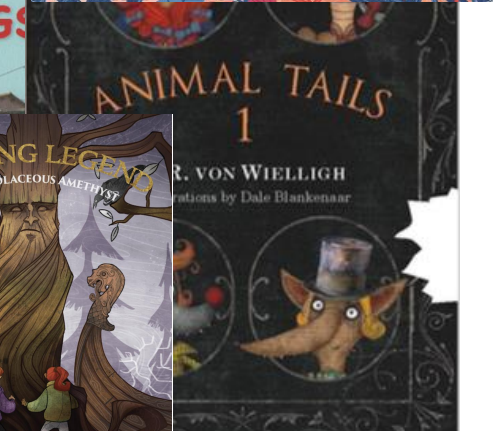
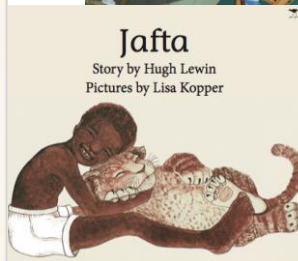
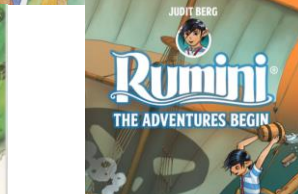
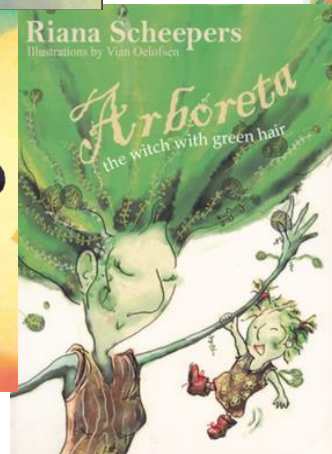
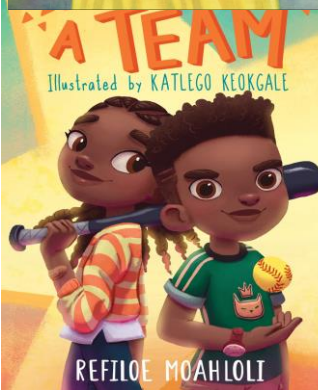
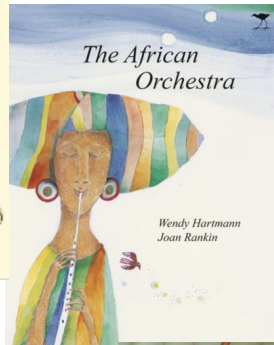
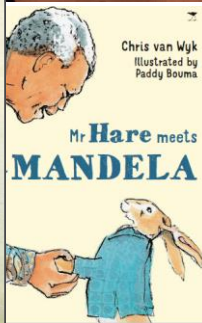
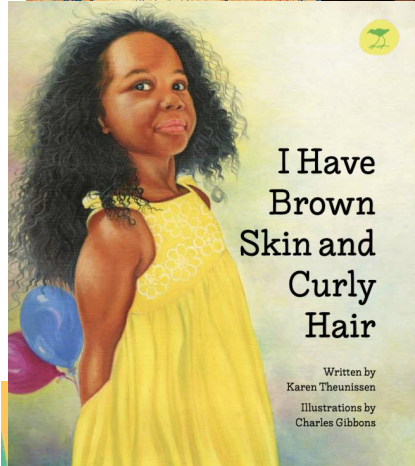
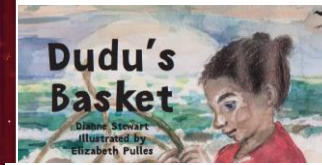
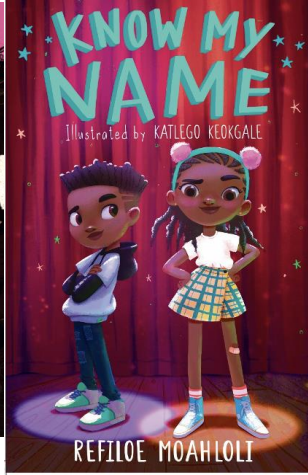
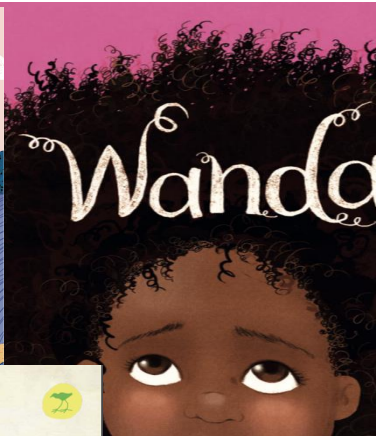
African Literary Agency

www.africanliteraryagency.com | contact: bieke@africanliteraryagency.com

African Literary Agency is a boutique literary agency. We work with a select group of books, authors and publishers. Our focus is on African fiction and non-fiction books and high-quality illustrated children's books and, since August 2020, African Speculative Fiction.*

Our experience in the international book world spans decades and continents. Meet our diverse, inclusive and passionate books, and spread the word.

***Also ask for our new African Speculative Fiction Rights List.**



REFILOE MOAHLOLI

PART OF
A TEAM

REFILOE MOAHLOLI

You are

KNOW MY
NAME

Illustrated by KATLEGO KEOKGALE

LOLI

ZINEEDA McDONALD

Illustrated by
ZINEEDA McDONALD

REFILOE MOAHLOLI



Rights: sold ww Portuguese, ww Arabic , Turkish and Eng World
sold to Amazon Crossing in co-operation with the Lennon-Ritchie
Agency

Genre: Children's fiction

Publisher: PanMacmillan, South Africa

Format: 32 pages

Publishing date: September 2020

Written by Refiloe Moahloli
Illustrated by Zinelda McDonald

We are One

Moahloli's work makes for a stunning picture book for young readers and their grown-ups that focuses on our shared sense of community.

The book is inspired by the Xhosa and Zulu word "ubuntu," meaning "I am, because you are," according to the publisher's note, and is "a concept of shared humanity, compassion, and oneness."

The story has a strong message of kindness and togetherness in the sparse text, which is ideal for reading aloud with younger readers and early independent readers



Refiloe Moahloli is the best-selling author of *You are Loved, Know my Name* and *How Many Ways Can You Say Hello?* She is passionate about writing stories that bring out the best in the human spirit, stories where children and the inner child in adults can identify and celebrate themselves.

Zinelda McDonald won numerous awards for her work including the Alba Bouwer-award and the Exclusive Books/IBBY-award

Refiloe Moahloli, illustrated by Katlego Keogale

Early Readers

Part of a Team



Refiloe Moahloli is passionate about writing stories that bring out the best in the human spirit and that children can identify with. She wrote the bestseller **We are One** published in the US/UK and Turkey, the Arabic regions and Portuguese.

Katlego "Kat" Keogale is a children's books illustrator and hopes to inspire many more black creatives to pursue children's book illustration and grow the industry because there are so many amazing stories that need to be told.

Morena loves his new school! There are so many fun extramural activities and games to play that he and his friends have set up their own championship. Before school starts and at break Morena and his friends plays marbles, cards, soccer and shoot hoops.

If there's one thing Morena takes seriously it is being the captain of his school's softball team. He is good at pitching and his twin sister Rorisang is an excellent batter. But their team keeps losing! Morena isn't scared of a challenge, he'll try his best at any game to be a superstar. How can he help his team to do their best?

Rights: World Rights available, excl English South African

Genre: Children's fiction, Early Readers

Publisher: PanMacmillan, South Africa

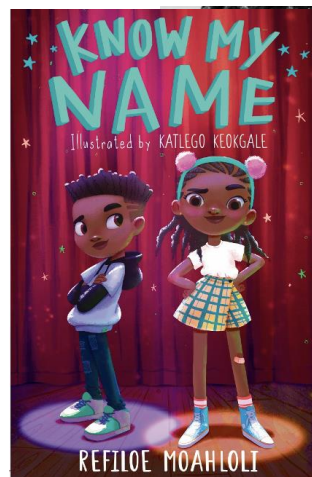
Format: 64 pages, b/w illustrated

Publishing date: September 2021

Refiloe Moahloli, illustrated by Katlego Keogale

Early Readers

Know my Name



Rorisang and her twin brother Mo must start the school year at a new school after their mom decides that the family needs to get out of their comfort zone. The twins have attended the school across the road since they were toddlers. All their friends are there, and their dad is best friends with the headmaster.

The new school is far from their house. Luckily Rorisang makes new friends quickly, learns to play softball and performs a praise poem at the Eisteddfod. She even survives the long trips in the car with her pest of a brother!

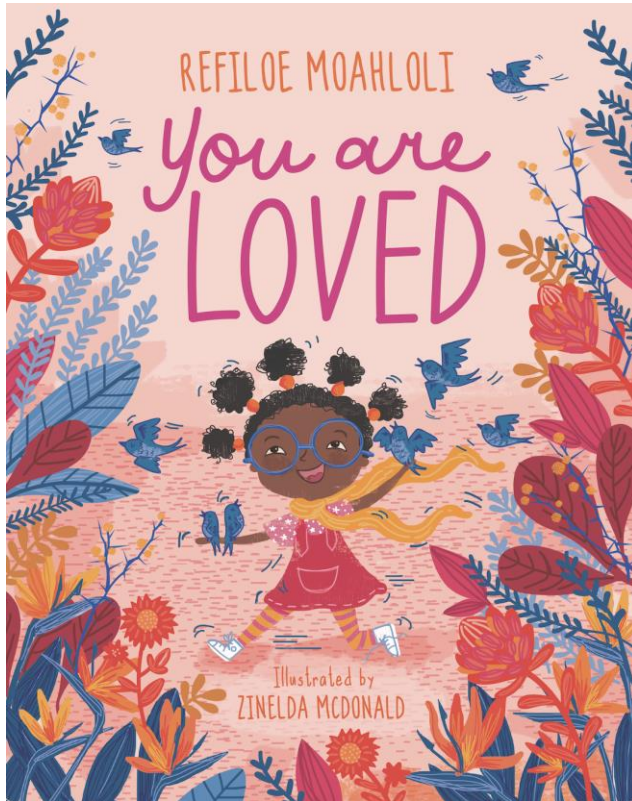
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Genre: Children's fiction, Early Readers

Publisher: PanMacmillan, South Africa

Format: 64 pages, b/w illustrated

Publishing date: September 2021



Written by Refiloe Moahloli
Illustrated by Zinelda McDonald

You are loved

Athandwa's heart is different. Her heart can sing. At first it scares her. Why is she not like her family and friends? When she tries to silence her heart, she discovers a secret ... and a special song. One that Mama, Gogo and Koko also know.

You are loved is a lyrical story about accepting the things that make us unique and celebrating the intergenerational love that lifts and protects us.



Refiloe Moahloli is the best-selling author of *I am You* (US Title of *We are One*), *Know my Name*, *How Many Ways Can You Say Hello?* She is passionate about writing stories that bring out the best in the human spirit, stories where children and the inner child in adults can identify and celebrate themselves.

Zinelda McDonald won numerous awards for her work including the Alba Boucher-award and the Exclusive Books/IBBY-award

Rights: World Rights available, excl SA

Genre: Children's fiction

Publisher: PanMacmillan, South Africa

Format: 32 pages

Publishing date: September 2020

Written by Keren Theunissen, Illustrated by Charles Gibbon

I have Brown Skin and Curly Hair

This rhyming picture book is about the identity crises many children face when they look different from their family members. The book takes children through the unique and often untold history of South Africa, explaining how a mixed-race heritage can contribute to their physical differences and yet they can still be part of one family. This book can also be used by educators or parents who wish to teach their children about diversity.

Everyone in this family looks different. Dad is tall and dark. Mum has light brown hair with green eyes. Some of the children have straight hair; others have curls. People regard them curiously until, one day, one of the children musters the courage to speak up proudly about her identity after she learns where she comes from and why she looks different.



Karen Theunissen writes to ignite the imagination, creativity and curiosity of young children. Her writing is inspired by her four young children and their quest to discover the world around them. This is her first book.

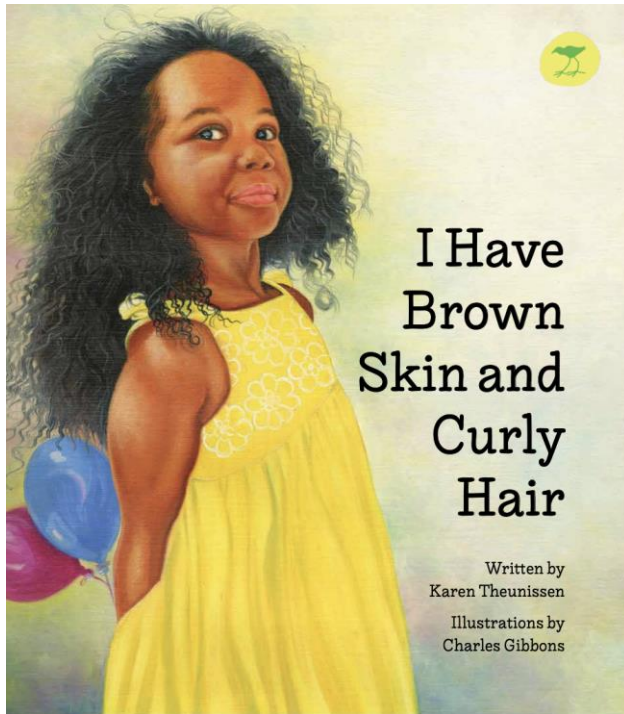
From the early age of five **Charles Gibbons** has been passionate about drawing and painting. Charles has had several one-man exhibitions in Zimbabwe and South Africa and continues to paint on commission for individuals and companies

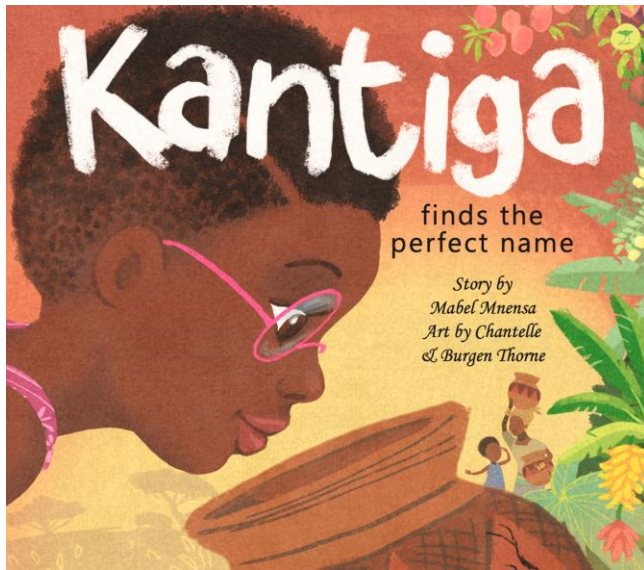
Rights: World Rights available, excl English SA

Genre: fiction

Publisher: Jacana Media, , Johannesburg

Format: 32 pages





Written by Mabel Mnensa

KANTIGA – finds the perfect name

A Book that fosters social justice conversations

Kantiga Finds the Perfect Name is a beautiful tale, infused with some magic that reimagines a popular African folklore for the modern child.

“There was once a beautiful little girl with a heart as big as her name, Kantiga. But Kantiga did not like her name.” Hearing this, her Gogo tells her a magical family tale inspired by the folklore of the magical cracked clay pot. The magical clay pot is appears to be useless because it is cracked and broken, yet we learn how this flaw that makes it more than perfect.

Rights: World Rights available, excl English SA
Genre: Illustrated Children's fiction
Publisher: Jacana Media, , Johannesburg
Format: 32 pages

Mabel Mnensa is an avid reader, poet, children's author and dreamer with roots in Malawi. Through the Kantiga series, Mabel celebrates Pan- African stories, traditions and histories with magical children's bedtime stories reimagined from the stories she read and was told growing up.

Chantelle and Burgen Thorne are internationally published illustrators with over 20 years experience in educational publishing. The two are now focussing on picture books for children because the magic of children's books is that they're not just for kids

Verdies: *Tales from the Lakeside* WRITTEN BY Judit Berg

4 book series, distributed by Netflix from March 2020, by Hungarian Bestselling children book writer Judit Berg

For more information go to: <http://africanliteraryagency.com/Verdies-African-Literary-Agency.pdf>



This beautiful saga is centred around the ecosystem of a lake. The Verdies are small green-skinned defenders of the Sea of Reeds. They fly around on warblers protecting all living creatures of the Babbly Lake. Their favorite pastime is the Bullfrog Rodeo where the champions of Verdes and Frogs compete. Their main enemies are the red-skinned Grimps and their allies, the swans and rats of the neighboring lake. All this are the ingredients of the tales of all living creatures in and around the Sea of Reeds.

Children's knowledge of Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter is deepened through the adventures of the characters, while they are actively involved in all kind of the events.

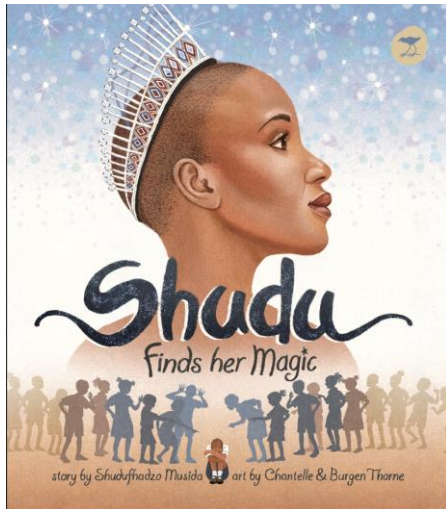
Rights: World Rights available
excl. print and audio China and SA
English

Genre: Children's fiction, Early
Readers

SHUDUFHADZO ABIGAIL MUSIDA

ILLUSTRATIONS BY CHANTELE AND BURGEN THORNE

Shudu find her Magic



Miss South Africa is a leadership platform for ambitious young South African women. Through a pageantry process, contestants receive world-renowned coaching in addition to advanced networking, business and life skills. Shaped into brand ambassadors for our country, they become champions of women's rights, thought leaders and savvy career women who inspire other young South Africans to fulfil their potential, recognise their self-worth and find their place in the world.

20.000 + copies sold in South Africa

Ants and mosquitoes are all the same. But every human being is unique. Shudu is telling her story so that you can know this: if you feel different from everyone else, it might feel scary. But it means you have a special place in this world and the rest of us need you because you are perfect. Being different is a gift. Celebrate your magic! The spotlight on global bullying has highlighted the devastating effect sustained torment has on children. Shudu's story teaches us all that we can ask for help and stand up for ourselves. Children, like adults, need to be treated with respect.

In this courageous and beautiful book, Miss South Africa, Shudufhadzo Musida, tells the story of her beginnings; of a singing and dancing and chatty girl in a small village named Ha-Vhangani, surrounded by love and most especially by her mum and Gogo Gugu. But things go wrong for Shudu when she moves to a new town and she is bullied by her classmates. Read how Shudu overcomes her sadness and her challenges, and becomes a girl, and then an adult, who has learned to love herself!

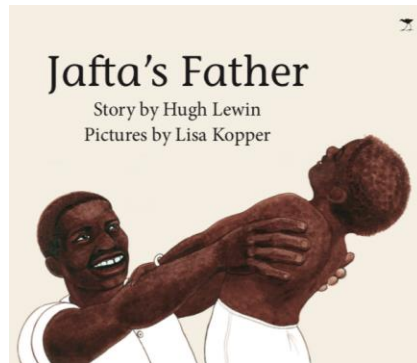
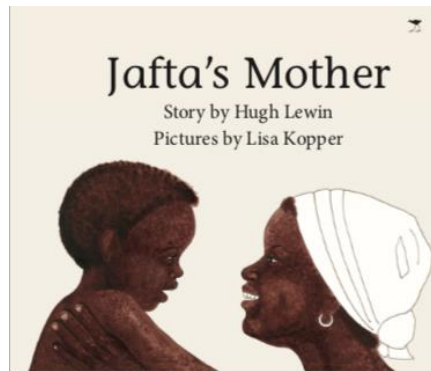
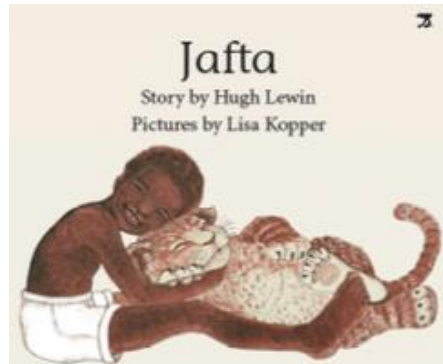
Rights: World Rights available, excl English South African

Genre: Publisher: Jacana Media, South Africa

Format: 32 pages, fc illustrated

Written by Hugh Lewin, illustrations by Lisa Kopper

Jafta



"The South African setting lends texture and a sense of history in the making while the story embraces readers of any nation with its universal themes. Kopper rises to the demands of the text, using gentle lines and the series' brown-and-white palette to convey a broad sweep of emotions". - **Publishers Weekly**

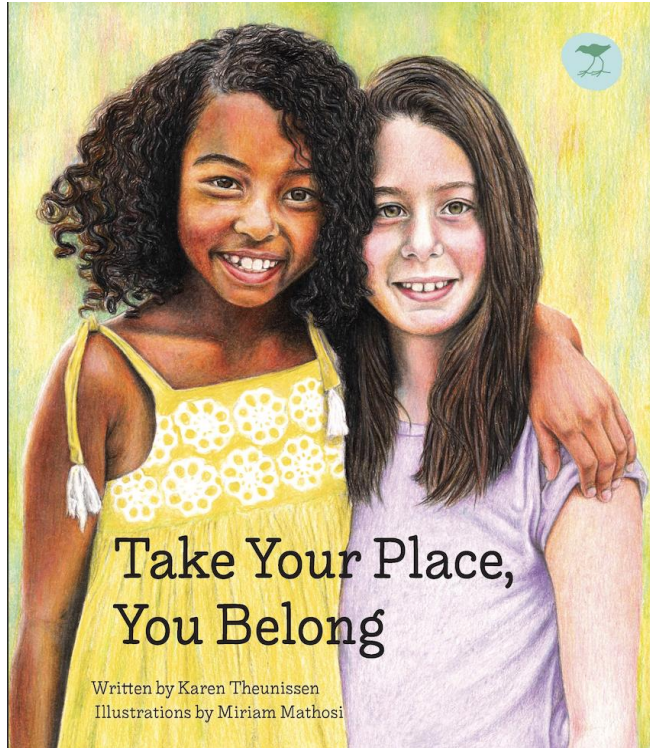
"This deceptively simple book provides a solid and strong read-aloud for the youngest listeners. The author helps children to name and put words to their strongly felt emotions.

And the illustrator provides vibrant drawings of the animals named in each simile. Without screaming "multiculturalism", this lovely book also shares some of the environs of S. Africa. JAFTA has stood the test of time with my two toddlers." – a mum

"When I get tired, I like lazing in the sun like a lizard, or wallowing warm like a hippo, and feeling cuddly like a lamb."

Jafta, a young boy growing up in Africa, describes some of his everyday feelings by comparing his actions to those of various African animals. The book is filled with rich illustrations and clever similes to explain all sorts of feelings and actions.

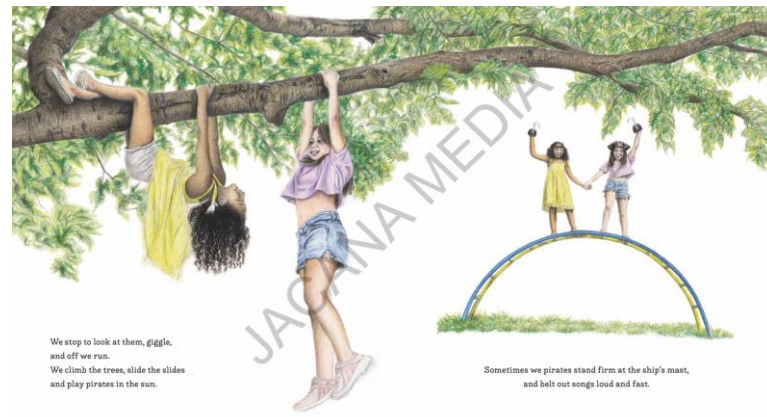
Rights: sold to China, US, Spain,
Publisher: Jacana Media, Johannesburg
Format: Paperback, 192 pages
Age 3-6 Years



Written by Karen Theunissen - Illustrated by Miriam Mathosi

Take Your Place, You Belong

Take your Place, You Belong is a rhyming picture book that tells the story of two best friends who navigate discrimination on the playground because they look different from one another. That's book explores themes of empathy, heroism, friendship and identity. It helps children, parents and teachers alike, discuss the often all too difficult issues around race, diversity and the hurt caused by discrimination.



Rights: World Rights available, excl South African

Genre: Children's fiction

Publisher: Jacana Media, South Africa

Format: 32 pages

Publishing date: October 2021

Karen Theunissen writes to ignite the imagination, creativity and curiosity of young children. Her writing is inspired by her four young daughters and their quest to discover the world around them.

Miriam Mathosi was born in New York, USA, but grew up in Johannesburg, South Africa. She moved to NY after her schooling to further her art training and education at the Fashion Institute of Technology, State University of New York where she obtained a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Illustration.

This is the Chick



Story by Wendy Hartmann Illustrated by Joan Rankin

Wendy Hartman & Joan Rankin

This is the Chick

A tiny guinea fowl chick hatches early one morning and lets out a 'cheep'. Find out what happens in the bush when the 'cheep' is heard by all the African animals.

Written in rhyme by best-loved children's author Wendy Hartmann, this humorous story will enchant and entertain.

Joan Rankin has illustrated over 30 books for children. She received the South African HAUM Daan Retief Prize for Children's Book Illustration in 1986 and the Katrine Harries Award for Children's Book Illustration in 1991.

She has illustrated numerous books on the McElderry list, including *A Frog in the Bog* by Karma Wilson and *Off to First Grade* by Louise Borden. Joan recently won the MER Prize for best illustrated children's book for *Just Sisi/Net Sisi* written by Wendy Hartmann.

The beautiful **African Orchestra** by Wendy and Joan was published in 2016 and hit the SA book market.

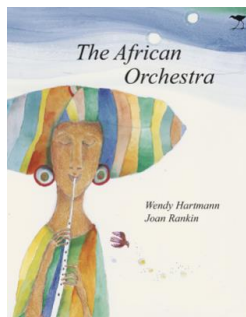
Rights: World rights , excl. Northern Americas, Mainland Chinese

Publisher: Jacana Media, SA

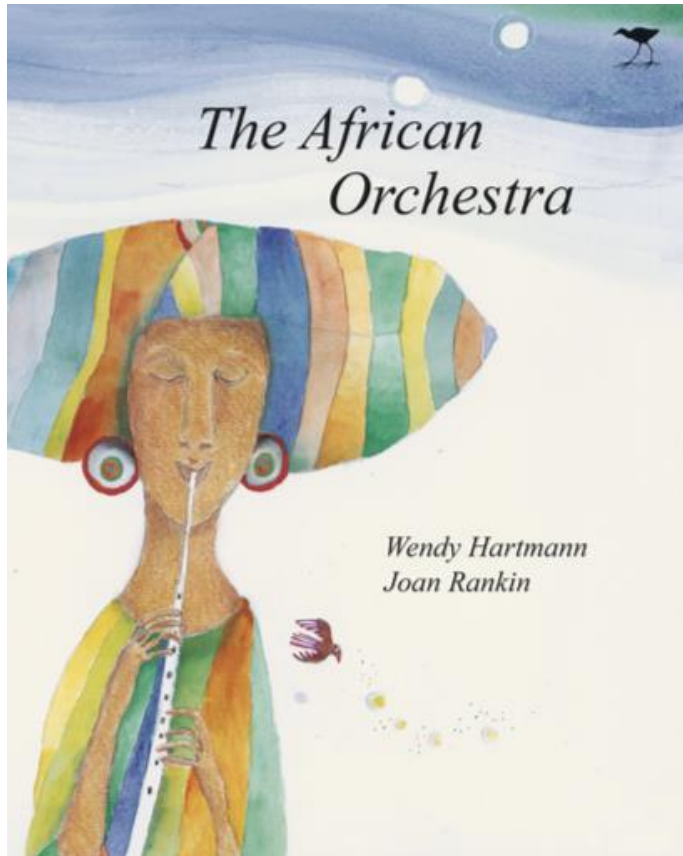
Format: Paperback, 32 pages full color

Publication date: June 2017

Age: 4-8 years



Wendy Hartmann has been writing for many years, with more than 40 children's books published. They range from concept and counting, beginner readers, high interest/low vocabulary readers to picture books. Her books have been selected for honour's lists and nominated for awards for writing and illustration.



Wendy Hartmann & Joan Rankin

The African Orchestra

'Wendy Hartmann has a musician's ear for words and Joan Rankin's pictures sing with color and expression.'

With magical illustrations from Joan Rankin, and poetry from masterful story teller, Wendy Hartmann, *The African Orchestra* lyrically captures the magic of the African sounds of nature. From the clicking of crickets to the crackle of the re, follow the journey that celebrates these sounds, in the rhythm and music of Africa.

*"Cicadas, crickets, beetles and frogs
Seedpods, cocoons, hollowed out logs
Crackling res, the patter of rain
thundering hooves on the African plain.
Birds in the air, in the trees – on the trees
Wind in the grass, through the leaves – over sand.
In the beginning, when all things began,
these were the sounds which were music to man."*

Rights: World Rights, Northern American rights sold, Mainland Chinese
Publisher: Jacana Media, Johannesburg
Format: Paperback, 32 pages
Publication date: June 2016

Age 3-6 Years



Wendy Hartmann has been writing for many Years. She has had more than forty children's books published. her books have been selected for honor's lists and nominated for awards for writing and illustration.

Joan Rankin has illustrated over thirty books for children including numerous books on the mcElderry list . She received many awards for her work and was listed on the IBBY 2012 Honors for illustrations.



Judit Berg, Illustrated by **Rumini, The series**

10 book series, 10 book deal China and 10 years bestselling in Hungary

The tales of Rumini's travel are full of twists and turns, conflicts and clashes. Whether they are fleeing pirates on the open sea, learning of strange and magical creatures on an uncharted island, or freeing new friends held unjustly captive in underground caverns beneath an unfamiliar city. Rumini and his mates learn the importance of friendship and integrity, and they never fail to lend a helping hand to anyone in need.

Ten books in the series, all equally exciting and adventurous enhanced by illustrations that drag you even more in the stories of our small hero Rumini.

Four of the books are available in the English language, the other 6 are currently in the process of being translated.

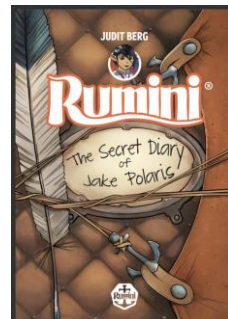
Awards: For "Rumini – The Adventures Begins" IBBY "Book of the Year" Award, 2007, IBBY Honour List, 2008. Rumini was elected "The Children's Book of the Decade" in Hungary in 2010.

Rights: World Rights, sold to China, Netherlands, Poland, Russia,

Publisher: Rumini kft, Hungary,

Format: Ppb, 32 pages each

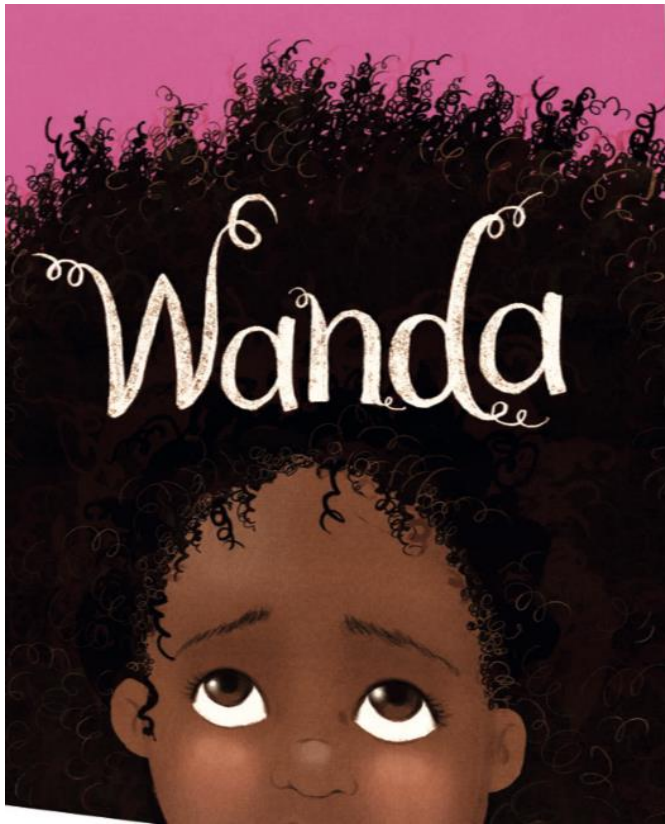
Age 3-10 Years



Judit Berg is one of Hungary's most popular writers of children's literature. She writes for all age groups from toddlers to teens. Although her career only started in 2005, she has already published 37 books.

In 2011, Judit was presented with Hungary's preeminent literary distinction, the "József Attila State Award" for her outstanding contribution to children's literature.





Written by Sihle Nontshokweni and Mathabo Tlali
Illustrated by Chantelle and Burgen Thorne

Wanda

One of Bank Street College of Education's Best Children's Books of the Year 2022!

Wanda is sad. She is often teased at school because of her hair, which her classmates say is bushy. Every day Wanda's mom tells her how beautiful she is, but she still feels like she has to try and 'fix' her hair all the time. Then, one day, her granny decides to sit her down and have a chat about all the different and wonderful hairstyles amazing women have. This beautifully-illustrated story is one many girls can relate to.

This book stands at the intersection of identity and beauty, celebrating how cultural pride is learned and passed on over the generations. This book encourages young children to love themselves for what they are born with, despite what society may say or think.

Rights: Rights sold to UK, North America, Europe and Australia

Genre: Fiction

Publisher: Jacana Media, Johannesburg

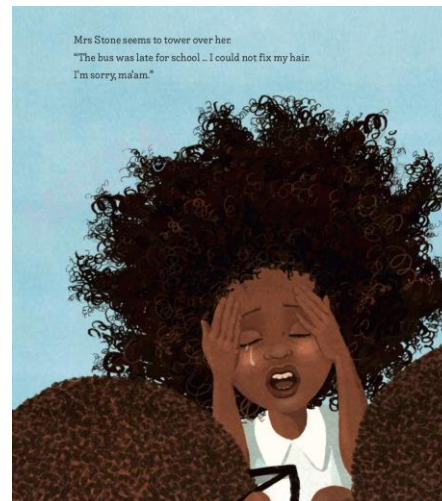
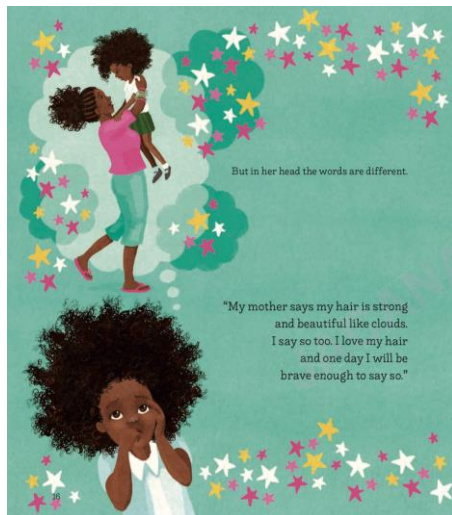
Format: 32 pages

Publishing date: June 2019

Sihle Nontshokweni is a PhD candidate at KU Leuven. Her research is focused on the successes and failures of school desegregation in post-apartheid South Africa. Prior to that, she lived in China, completing a master's at Peking University, where she studied the aspirations of African migrant entrepreneurs living in Guangzhou, south of China.

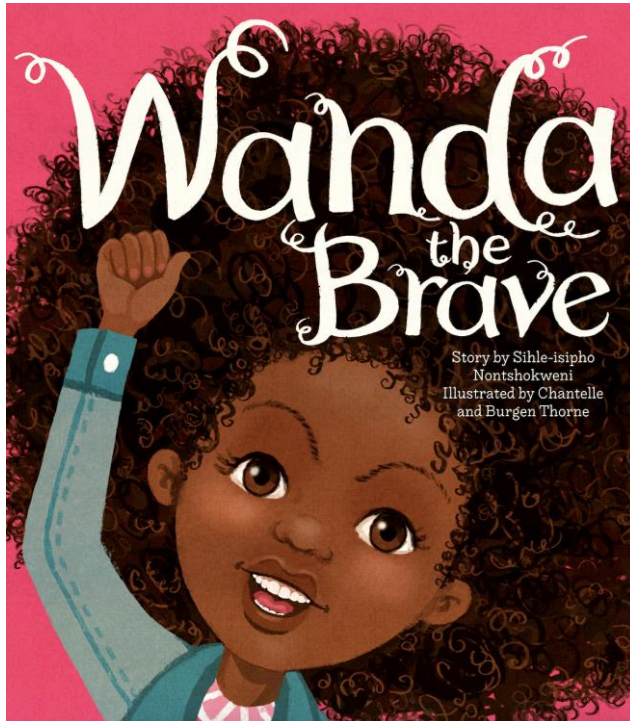
Mathabo Tlali was born and bred in the Eastern Cape and has the yearning to understand and engage the thoughts and realities of others through various artistic and digital platforms. She seeks to explore intersectional ways of connectivity between the past, present and future, more so pertaining to identity politics within the performance and academic space.





Chantelle and Burgen Thorne are internationally published illustrators with over 25 years experience in educational publishing. The two are now focusing on picture books for children with several titles being released this year.

Clients include: Little Tiger Press, Imagine That, Jacana, Pearson International, Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Heinemann, Spork/Clear Fork, Macmillan, PanMacmillan, BenchMark, Mitr, Hodder and Stoughton



Written by Sihle Nontshokweni - Illustr. by Chantelle & Burgen Thorne

Wanda the Brave

This book is the second book in the Wanda series and is again a celebration of girl power, and a reminder that courage and friendship is a mighty force!

Meet Wanda, with her glorious head of hair.

Today, Wanda is visiting the hair salon where she'll use all the hair secrets Makhulu taught her. But Aunty Ada wants her to straighten her hair with a white chemical. Wanda and her friend Sandra come up with a plan and both girls stand strong and brave in the face of this big challenge.



Rights: Non-English Rights available , English Rights sold to Interlink US

Genre: fiction

Publisher: Jacana Media, , Johannesburg

Format: 32 pages

Publishing date: September 2021

Sihle Nontshokweni is a PhD candidate at KU Leuven. Her research is focused on the successes and failures of school desegregation in post-apartheid South Africa. Prior to that, she lived in China, completing a master's at Peking University, where she studied the aspirations of African migrant entrepreneurs living in Guangzhou, south of China.

Chantelle and Burgen Thorne are internationally published illustrators with over 20 years experience in educational publishing. The two are now focusing on picture books for children with several more titles being released internationally this year, because the magic of children's books is that they're not just for kids.

Written by Aoife Lennon-Ritchie

A Viking Legend - The Violaceous Amethyst

“As witty as A series of Unfortunate Events, highly imaginative and wholly original, it’s a total blast. Chockablock with story, larger-than-life characters, mythology and monsters...It’s Fun with a capital F” – Sarah Lots

Bloody brilliant. Sharp and funny, and perfectly pitched to the age group.- Goodreads fan

This winter, siblings Ruairi and Dani Miller visit their grandmother in the legendary Viking island of Yondersaay. In less than twenty-four hours of their arrival, Ruairi is mistaken for the lost Boy King of Denmark, kidnapped by Vikings, and scheduled to be sacrificed at sundown. Granny isn’t very pleased. But when they are the only ones in town who fail to go “Viking,” the three turn to Granny’s extremely epic tales of the legends of Yondersaay, The Gifts of Odin, and King Dudo the Mightily Impressive for clues.



Aoife Lennon-Ritchie is an Irish native author, living with her two children in Capte Town, South Africa, where she works as a literary agent for some the country’s best literary and film talent. **A Viking Legend: The Violaceous Amethyst** is her first novel for teens and Young-adults

Rights: World Rights available, excl SA english

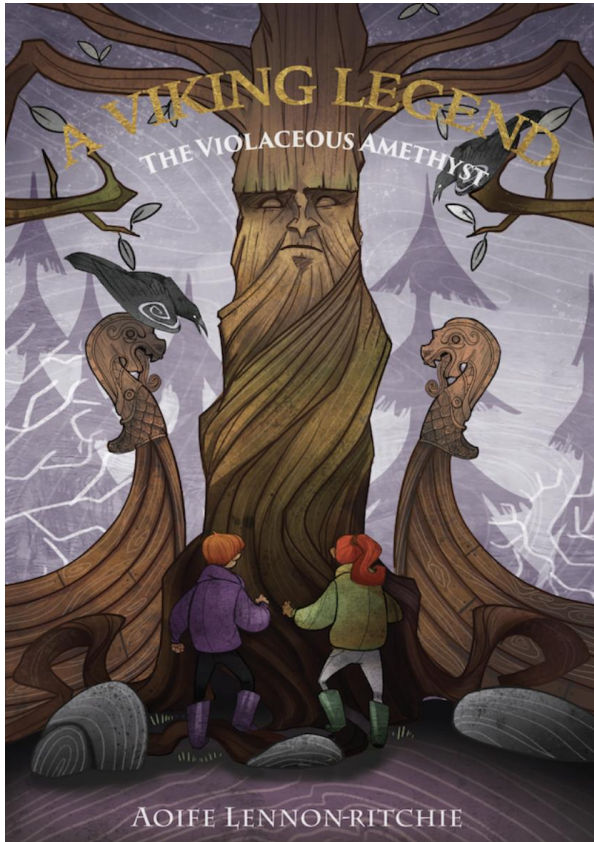
Genre: fiction

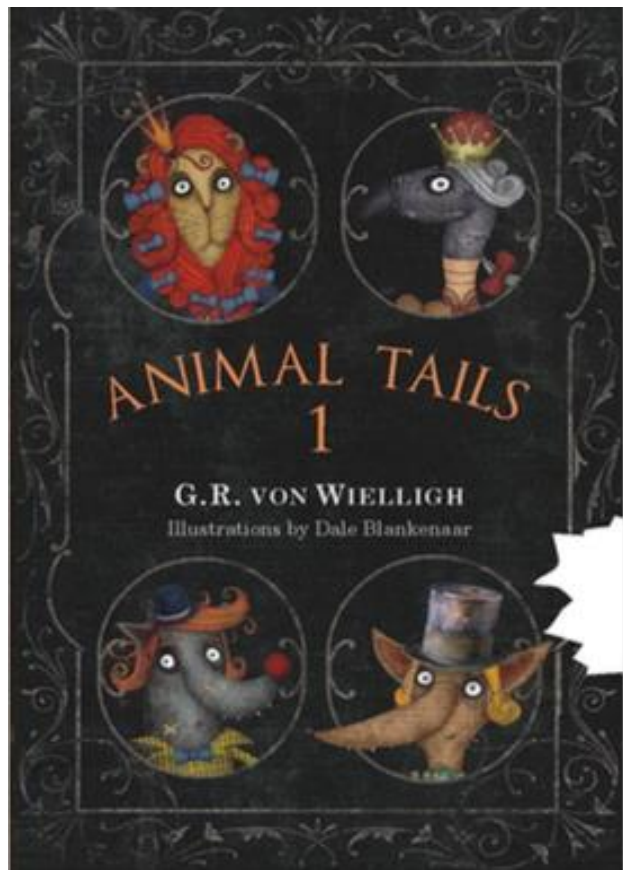
Publisher: Imaginary House, Cape Town, SA

Format: 240 pages

Age: MG

** Originally published as 'The Extremely Epic Viking Tale of Yondersaay' by Month9Books in the USA (Oct, 2015).*





G.R. van Wielligh, illustrated by Dale Blankenaar

Animal Tales (Series)



The tales of Jackal and Wolf are to South Africans what apple pie is to Americans. No one should grow up without them. Yet the sly Jackal and the whimsical Wolf is older than apple pie. These stories come from the Khoi-Khoi, a group of Bushmen who narrated them into existence shortly after the Stone Age.

Animal Tales Volume 1-4 are freshly translated into modern English, the stories get a new look thanks to the beautiful, full-color illustrations of Dale Blankenaar. All volumes are a compilation of 15 stories. We read about the big war between the walking and the flying animals; we are told who gets crowned as the king of the animals and we meet sly Jackal and poor, gullible Wolf.

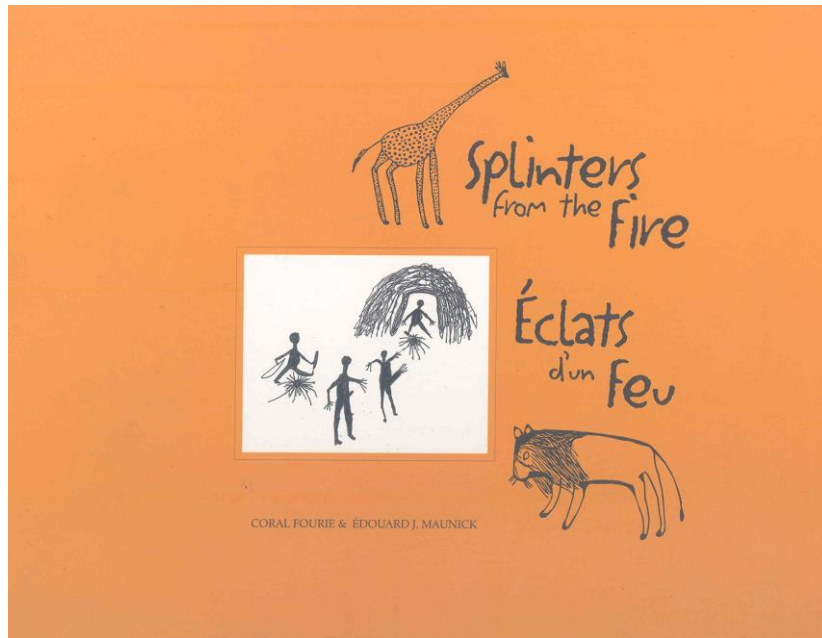
The publisher **Protea Boekhuis** is nominated for the **Bologna Prize for the Best Children's Publishers of the World 2019**

Rights: World Rights
Publisher: Protea Book House, Pretoria
Format: Paperback, 96 pages
Publication date: 2011
Series: 4 books
Illustrations: full color

Age 9-100 Years



Dale Blankenaar is a full-time picture book illustrator and designer. He has illustrated about 30 picture books (locally and internationally). Dale was a finalist in the 2010 Maskew Miller Literature Awards Illustration category and was selected for IBBY SA's Honour list 2015/2016 for his rendering of the eerily atmospheric world of the writing in *Rhinocephants on the roof* by Marita van der Vyver (NB Publishers, Cape Town).



Bushman Stories collected and edited by Coral Foerie

Rights: World rights available

Publisher: Protea Boekhuis, Pretoria

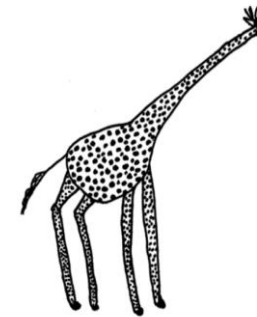
Genre: Illustrated Fiction

Format: Paperback, 32 pages, Illustrations b/w

Available languages: English, Afrikaans, French, German

Splinters from the Fire

The result is twenty stories illustrated by Bushman artists. We are in Africa, the country of Timbuktu, where the book trade dates from the middle of the 16th century. During this fantastic period countries arose such as Ghana, Mali, Egypt, to name a few. The Bushman, though a small community, are an essential fraction of the African soul. The absence or death of the Bushman would mean imbalance. Read the stories, the legends and the fables contained in this volume and you will learn so much which quicken and enrich your being. Simple happiness that comes with harmony for all ages. May their stories and art live and perpetuate.



A STORY OF THE SUN

Everywhere, the whole world was dark. There was darkness all over and people could not see to collect food. Parabhize had light. He kept it in his armpit and was sleeping most of the time. Only when he woke up and stretched himself, would the people have a little light.

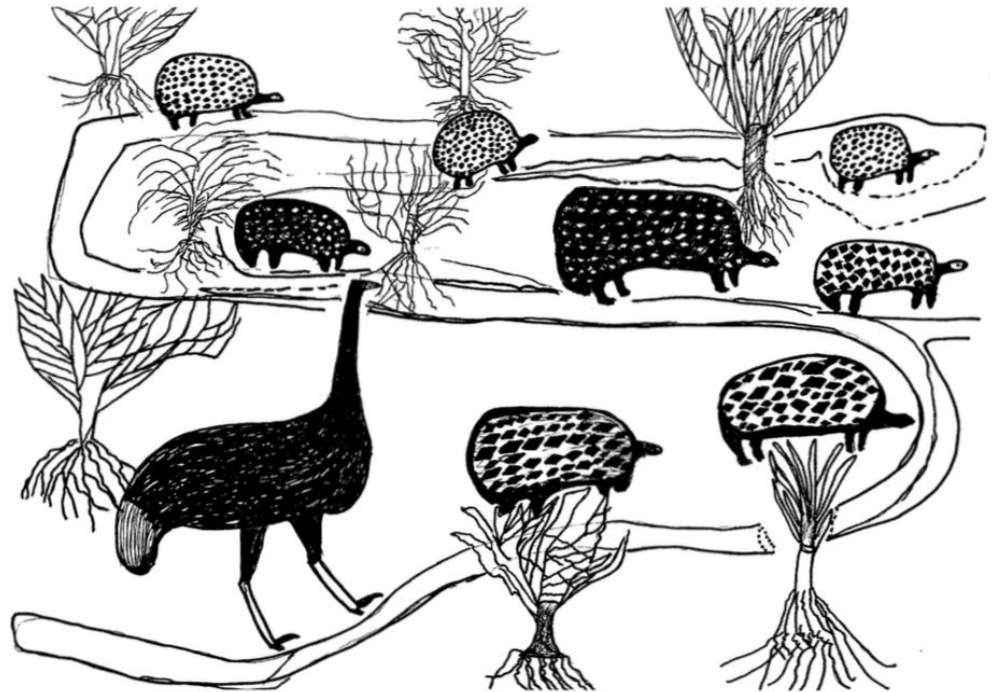
One day a woman, who was hungry and tired of sitting in the dark all the time, said to her son, "You must go to Parabhize while he is sleeping and get the light from under his arm." This young man was afraid of Parabhize, but he knew he had to do something about the situation.

Parabhize was lying asleep under a tree. The young man felt his way in the dark until he found the old man. He lifted his arm very slowly, but as the light became visible, Parabhize woke up. The young man got a fright. He grabbed the light and ran away with it. He could see clearly because he had the light. Then he said to himself, "I cannot keep this light to myself; I must share it with all the people and the only way that is possible is to get it up higher." At that moment, the light started to burn his hands and he threw it up high into the sky.

The people were very happy. They looked up into the sky and they could see everything around them. They sang songs of praise, took their bags and started collecting food.

Thus, up to this day, the women sing while collecting veldkos.

TOLD BY MODUMO AT DIPHUDUHUDU, SOUTH-EASTERN
KALAHARI, BOTSWANA.
ILLUSTRATED BY KGORO/WHAA.



Splinters from the Fire



VAN AGGELEN

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