U-Oskar Ingulube Engumqaphi

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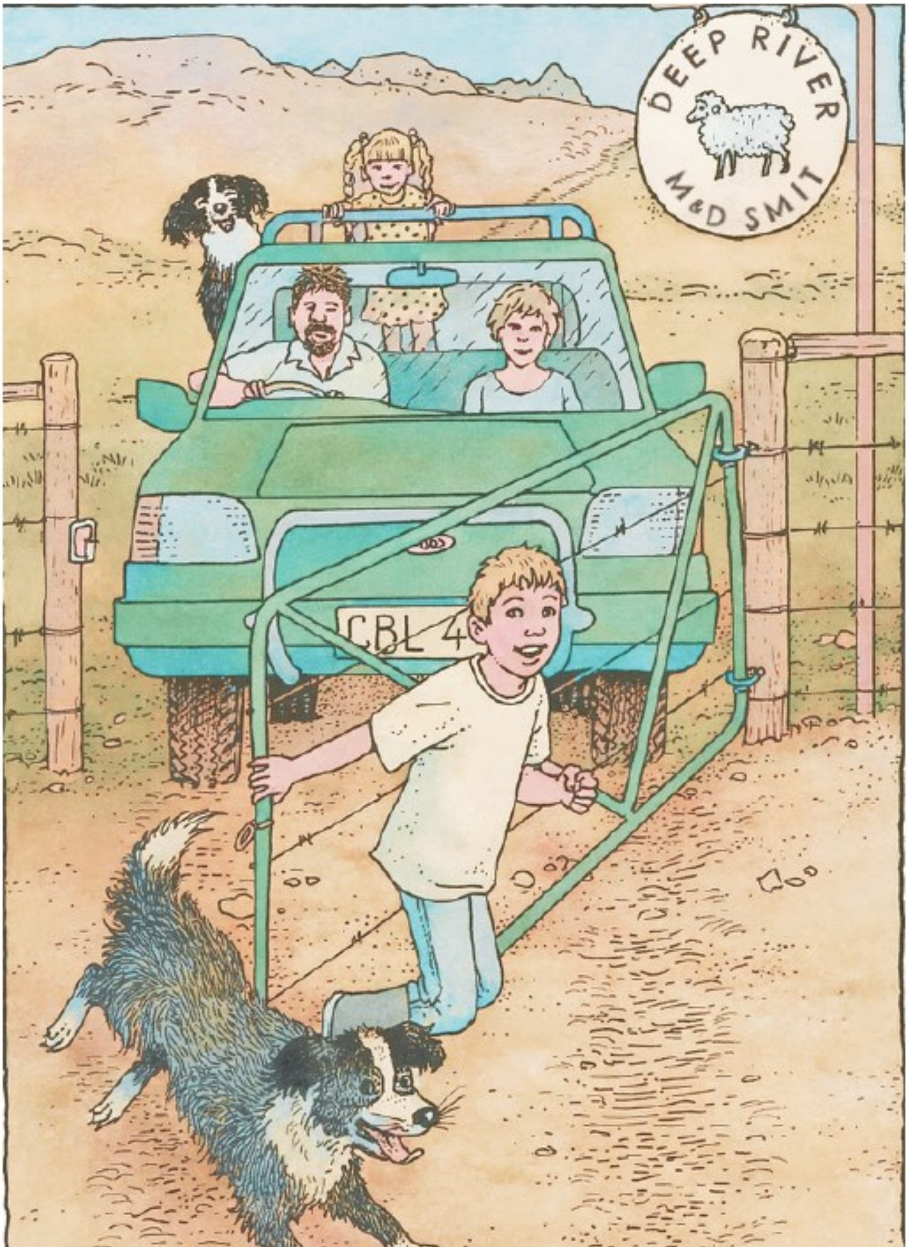

DEEP RIVER
M&D SMIT
CBL 4

U-Oskar, Ingulube Engumqaphi

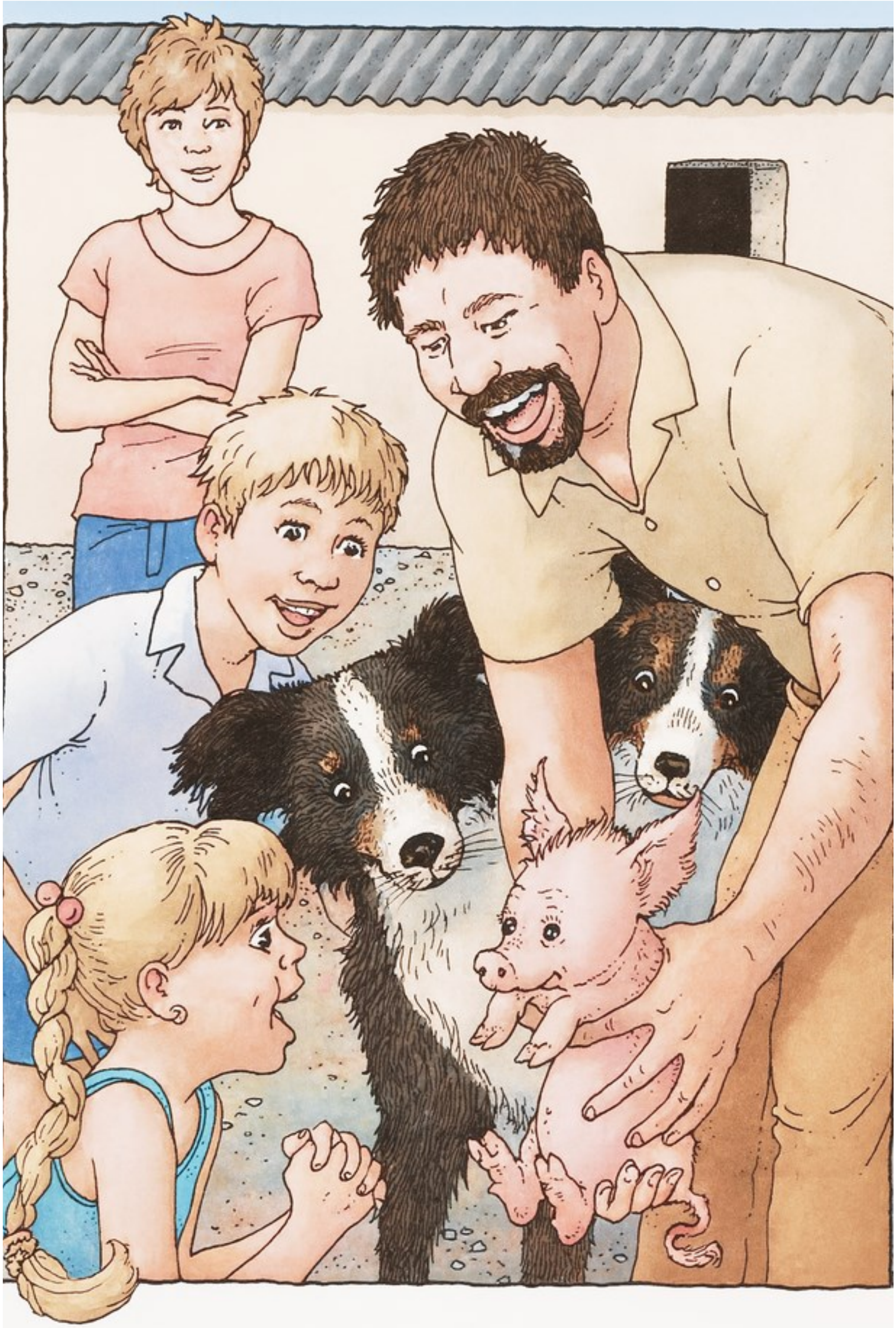
Kude nedolobha, ekugcineni komgwaqo omude owubhuqu, kwakunepulazi elibizwa nge-“Deep River”.

UWillem wayehlala lapho nabazali bakhe kanye nodadewabo omncane, u-Annamaria, nezinja ezimbili eziqeqeshelwe ukwelusa kanye nokuvikela amagusha ezibizwa ngoSokkies noPop.

UBaba kaWillem wayengumlimi. Wayegcinela amagusha iwuli kanye nezinkukhu amaqanda azo. Kwakunamasimu emifino kanye nezihlahla zezithelo eziningi kakhulu, ezigcwele amabhilikosi kanye nedolofiya. Babenenkomo enhle kakhulu futhi ebizwa ngoSaartjie, owayenikeza amabhakede agcwele ubisi olumnandi olusakhilimu ukuze luphuzwe abantwana. Umama wabo wenza olunye lwalolo bisi lwaba ushizi kanye neyogathi.

UWillem no-Annamaria babazi ukuthi banenhlanhla ngokuhlala epulazini elinezindawo ezivulekile kanye namasimu nomfula. Kwakumangaza ukubona ikhono uSokkies noPop ababelusa ngalo amagusha. Isikhathi sokuvuna kwakuyisikhathi esihle kakhulu sonyaka.

Ngelinye ilanga ubaba wabo wafika ekhaya nechwane lengulube elivela kumakhelwane. Ichwane lengulube lalilincane futhi liphinki linekhala elisanjoloba eliqosheme kanye namehlo agqamile.



“Unezinsuku ezimbili kuphela. Umama wakhe unezinye izjngane eziningi ngakho simphiwe ukuze simkhulise,” kusho uBaba. U-Annamaria waqamba ichwane lengulube ngokuthi u-Oskar.

Wambathisa u-Oskar ngengubo wamncelisa ngebhodlela. Uma esesuthi wayembeka ehlombe ambhodlise njengomntwana womuntu. Ebusuku wayelala ekhalibhothini eduze nombhede wakhe, embathiswe ngengubo yokulala. Abantwana babethanda ukumbona ezulazula ngamanqina akhe amafushane, izindlebe zakhe zinyakaza.

Uma eshiywe yedwa wayememeza ngezwi elikhulu ngendlela emangazayo, abantwana babeqhamuka begijima bamqubule bambambe bamsondeze.

Washeshe wafunda ukuchama kanye nokukaka ngaphandle noSokkies noPop.

“Uhlakaniphe kakhulu,” kwasho uWillem. “Singamfundisa imigilingwane eminingi enhlobonhlobo.”

UBaba wabo wabukeka ekhathazekile. “Ningamthandi kakhulu u-Oskar,” wexwayisa. “Sizomenza isosishi kanye nobhekeni ngelinye ilanga.”

“Ini?” kukhala uWillem no-Annamaria. “Sidle u-Oskar? Singayenza kanjani into embi kangako? U-Oskar ungummngani wethu!”

“Leli ipulazi, bantwana,” kusho uBaba engadlali. “Sikhulisela izinto ukuba sizidle. Izingulube zikhuliselwa inyama.”

“Hhayi u-Oskar,” kunikina ikhanda uWillem. Angeke ngisaphinde ngidle inyama, futhi.”

“Umncane kakhulu ukuthi unganquma lokho,” kusho uBaba. “Manje khiphani amabhuzu enu anodaka bese niyothela amanzi enu okugeza kubhavu. Ningazikhathazi ngendaba yenyama.”

Kodwa abantwana bakhathazeka.

Ezinyangeni ezimbalwa ezilandelayo u-Oskar wakhula, wakhula. Waba mkhulu waba nesambatho esinoboya obunombala osasiliva. Izidlathi zakhe zazigcwele zenza ubuso bakhe bubukeke bubuhle futhi bumamatheka.

Uma abantwana bebuya ekhaya wayegikima ebahlangabeza noSokkies noPop. Ngokuya eba mkhulu futhi ekhuluphala u-Oskar, uWillem waya ngokukhathazeka kakhulu.

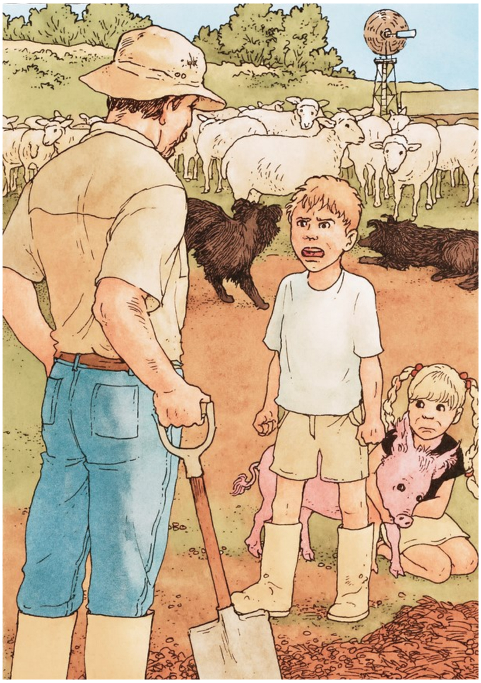
Ngelinye ilanga u-Oskar wayengahambi nezinja eziqeqeshelwe ukwelusa kanye nokuvikela amagusha.

Ulahlekile u-Oskar!

“Ukuphi u-Oskar?” abantwana bafuna ukwazi. UBaba wanikina ikhanda. “Ningabuzi imibuzo eminingi! Hambani niyokwenza imisenzi yenu yesikole,” washo kubona. U-Oskar wayevalelwe kwigushede. Kwabe sekuyisikhathi sokuthi ahlatshwe bese enziwa ubhekeni namasosishi.

“Kungani? Kungani? Angeke ukwazi ukwenza lokhu!” kwakhala abantwana.

“Sidinga inyama,” kwasho uMama. “Senidle amasosishi amaningi. Niyawathanda. Futhi singalisebenza kanjani ipulazi ngaphandle kokudla ezinye zezilwane?”



“Ngiyalizonda ipulazi!” kwakhala uWillem. “Ngifisa sengathi besihlala edolobheni futhi besizithengela ukudla kwethu ezitolo!”

“Empeleni, nicabanga ukuthi izitolo ziyithola kuphi inyama yazo?” kubuza uBaba.

“Vele uyeke u-Oskar!” kusho uWillem ngokuthukuthela. Bobabili abantwana balaliswa bekhala.

“Ngicabanga ukuthi asibhekananga kahle nalolu daba,” uWillem wezwa uBaba esho ngesikhathi evala umnyango wekamelo.

Ipulazi Liyasha

Phakathi nobusuku uWillem wavuswa ukukhala kwezilwane okubi kakhulu. Kukhona okwakungahambi neze kahle. USokkies noPop babegijima imisila yabo iphansi. Kwakunelangabi elesabekayo elibomvu elalilokoza ngaphandle kwefasitela lekamelo lezingane. UWillem wavula amakhethini.

Wahlangabezana nombono omubi kakhulu. Amalangabi asawolintshi ayelokoza ngaphansi kwesihlahla samabhilikosi. Kwakusha ingobo. Izinhlansi zakhuphuka zashona phezulu esibhakabhakeni esimnyama njengezinyosi eziyisigidi. Kwakunomsindo wokuqhuma okhahlayo njengoba kwase kuqhuma amalangabi amakhulu enqolobaneni yamapali okubiya.

“BABA! MAMA! IPULAZI LIYASHA!” kumemeza uWillem ethukile.

UMama noBaba bagxuma baphuma embhedeni base bephuma endlini, begqoka amabhantshi namabhuzi ngesikhathi begijima. Ukukhala kabuhlungu kwesilwane kwaya ngokuzwakala kakhudlwana nakakhudlwana. Kwakukungu-Oskar, evaleleke kwigushede lakhe!

Ngemuva kwalokho kwaba nokudideka okukhulu. Abalimi abangomakhelwane bafika namaqembu abo abacimi mlilo.

Abantu bagijima bememeza. Amalambu ezimoto akhanya kakhulu ayekhanyisa lapha nalaphaya. Kwampontshwa amanzi emadamini kanye nasemifuleni.

Intuthu ekhamayo yayigcwele yonke indawo endlini yasepulazini. USokkies noPop bakhaphela amagusha ngesibindi ehlane base behlala nawo khona.

Ukuphi u-Oskar?

UWillem no-Annamaria bahanjiswa epulazini elingumakhelwane ukuze baphephe. Kwathi nje kusanda kuphuma ilanga ubaba wabo wafika wazobalanda. Insizi yayenze mnyama ubuso bakhe; kwakunezimbobo zokusha ehembeni lakhe futhi amehlo akhe ebomvu. Wayekhathele kodwa emamatheka.

Wathi, “ipulazi liphephile.” “Sathola usizo olukhulu kakhulu. Ingobo ilimele futhi silahlekelwe ezinye izihlahla, kodwa indlu kanye nazo zonke izilwane zasepulazini kukahle. Sibonga u-Oskar kanye nawe-Willem , enisazisile. Ngaphandle kwenu nobabili ngabe kube kubi kakhulu.”

“Ukuphi u-Oskar?” kubuza uWillem.

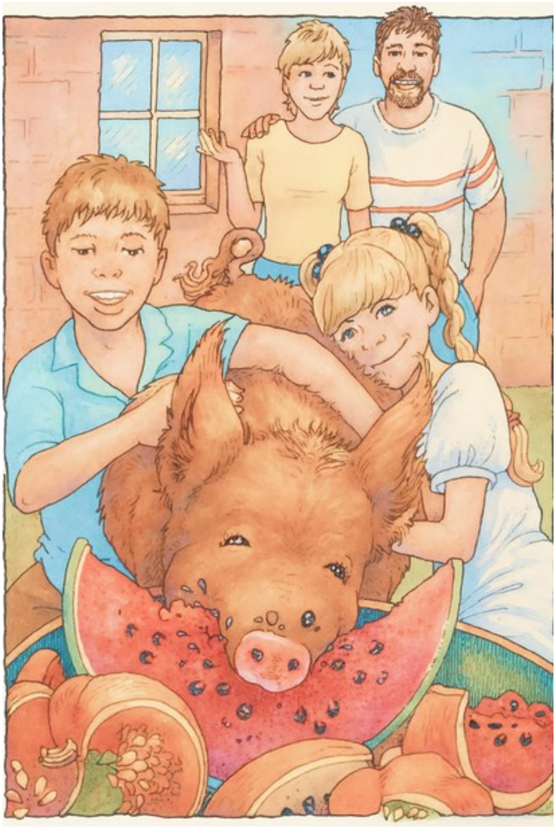
“Uphephile u-Oskar,” kusho uBaba. “Ngicabanga ukuthi usibonisile ukuthi uyingulube engumqaphi kanjani. Mhlawumbe singaphila ngaphandle kukabhekeni omncane.”

“UWillem no-Annamaria baziphonsa ezandleni zikababa wabo ezinensizi, bememeza futhi badazuluka ngenjabulo. “U-Oskar usindile! U-Oskar usindile!”

Isikhathi Sokugubha

Baba nomgubho omuhle kakhulu ngesikhathi amagceke epulazi esehlanziwe ngosuku olulandelayo. Kwakukuningi okumele bakubonge. U-Oskar wanikezwa ibhakede eli-khulu lethanga kanye nekhabe, okokuzitika ngemuva kwesidlo akuthandayo!

Bese lena kube yindaba echaza ukuthi ipulazi i-Deep River layithola kanjani ingulube engumqaphi.



Le ncwadi iphuhlisa uthando, ubulungisa nentlonipho ebomioni ngokusebenzisa ukuFunda, ukuThetha nokuBhala kulungiselelwa abafundi bamaBanga aPhantsi.

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