Isahluko sokuqala

Ukuqala kwakhe uWhitney ukuphuzana nenkwenkwe kwaba ngathi ufunqulwa ngamaza amakhulu. Wasuka weva ehanjelwa ngumzimba wonke nje - akazange azi nokuba makenzeni okanye athini na. Wathula nje, waqhuba le bayenzayo. Wayengasoze ayilibale loo mini...

Le nto yenzeka mhla kwakudibene izikolo ngezikolo emidlalweni yokubaleka ngenjikalanga yangoLwesithathu, phaya ekuyeni kokuphela kukaFebhuwari. UWhitney wayeneminyaka elishumi elinesithathu ubudala ngelo xesha, efunda ibanga lesixhenxe. NgeMini yeValentine waye wafumana ikhadi elivela kuLucky, owayeligatyana - owayesele efunda esekondari. Nangona wayeseneminyaka elishumi elinesithandathu ubudala, wayethe ufunda ibanga leshumi, kodwa ke yena uWhitney wayemazi ukuba usafunda elethoba, kuba umhlobo wakhe uLindiwe wayenodade wabo omkhulu onguZola igama owayefunda kwibanga elinye noLucky. UWhitney yena akazange azidube ngobu buxoki babuthethwe nguLucky. Kakade uLucky wayengumntu ozifihlayo izinto zakhe, kwaye ke uWhitney wayetsalwa kanye yiloo nto. Umzekelo, wayesazi ukuba eli gama lithi Lucky yayingelogama lakhe, kodwa wala kwaphela ukumxelela elona gama lakhe. Wonke umntu wayemazi njengoLucky. Yena ke uWhitney wayesoloko ezibuza apha engqondweni yakhe ukuba ngaba inokuba ngubani elona gama lakhe, ade amane empha namagama ngamagama

awayewathanda yena.

Wayemthanda. Akazange amxelele kodwa yena loo nto - wayengenakuze amxelele ezimpondweni loo nto - kodwa wayemthanda kakhulu. Wayengazange abe ngumntu wamakhwenkwe ngaphambili, kodwa kunyaka odlulileyo yaye yabakho inguqulelo eyenzekileyo apha kuye ngaphakathi. Mhlawumbi yayizezokukhula. Okanye ke mhlawumbi yayikukuba le nkwenkwe yayimthanda. Wayecacile nje ukuba uyamthanda, into ke leyo eyathi yamenza waziva engumntu oqaqambileyo, omhle. Phofu ke kusenokwenzeka ukuba wayemhle ngenene. Ngenye imini wayeya kuba yintokazi entle, enqwenelwa ngawo onke amadoda.

Emva kweMini yeValentine akukho mini yakhe yadlula engambonanga uLucky, xa esiya esikolweni naxa ebuya, edlula ngasesikolweni sooLucky. Kwade kwakabini uLucky ebuza ukuba akangemkhaphazeleli na ukugoduka, kodwa ke waye wamchazela ukuba loo nto ingamfaka enkathazweni. Mhlawumbi kwakuya kubakho umntu obabonayo axelele umama wakhe. Okanye ke eyona nto yayinokuba mbi kakhulu yayikukuba babonwe nguNkskz Pillay. UNkskz Pillay wayeyeyona titshalakazi yakhe wayeyithanda uWhitney, engathandi ke ngoko ukuba amdanise.

uWhitney wayengazange amxelele uLucky ukuba wayenayo indawana eyoyikayo. Umama wakhe wayemyalile ngento yokuba yedwa phakathi kwamakhwenkwe. Kambe ke akazange akhe amchazele ukuba kutheni na, kodwa ke wayeme ngelokuba uWhitney makangaze aye naphi na nenkwenkwe. UWhitney ke wacinga ukuba umama wakhe wayefuna ukumkhusela kootsotsi - abafo ke abo ababenokumenza into embi. Kodwa ke uLucky wayengenjalo yena - wayekhangeleka

engumntu onobubele nohlekisayo, ethandeka. Kodwa ke into yokuba abe yedwa kunye noLucky yayiphatha kumvuyisa, iphathe kumenza nexhala. Wayenayo indawana eyoyikayo, kodwa wayekulangazelela ukuba akhe abe nexeshana kunye naye, akhe azive ewolwe zezo ngalo zakhe.

Lo mhla wemidlalo waye ke wabanika ithuba ekugqibeleni, lokuba bakhe babe kunye. Le midlalo yayiqhutyelwa emabaleni esikolo sooLucky, kuba esiya sooWhitney isikolo, iThembalethu Primary, sasingenawo sona amabala afanelekileyo. Ibala labo lemidlalo yayisisiqwengana nje somqwebedu owawutsho ngoozenzele bezinti ezikekeleyo macala omabini. Umkhuthukana webalana labo lebhola ekhatywayo lalikwasetyenziswa njengendawo ekudlalwa kuyo xa kusaphunywe ikhefana, into ke leyo eyayilitsho langabi naso nesicithana esi sengca. Kanti ke lona elaphaya eThembalethu High lalinayo noko ingca, kwaye ke macala lalineendawo ezakhelwe ukuhlala ababukeli. Ngale mini ke isikolo sasiye saphuma ingekaqini imini, ukulungiselela ukuba imidlalo iqalise emini emaqanda, kwaye ke uLucky wayethe mabadibane phaya emva kwale ndawo ihlala ababukeli ngentsimbi yesibini. Wathi ke esakuba ethe nyebelele wemka kubahlobo bakhe, uWhitney, wafika uLucky sele emlindile. Bathi dlwe yimihlali ubuso bakhe akumbona uWhitney.

"Yiza ngapha," watsho unkabi ebusebeza. "Ndifuna ukukubonisa indawo yam eyaziwa ndim ndodwa!"

"Iyawalihlebo," wacinga njalo egigitheka uWhitney, kodwa ke akathetha, walandela, beyishiya le ndawo yababukeli besiya kwesinye isakhiwana esasikhangeleka ngathi sisitora. Sasinomnyango omnye nje kuphela, olapha ecaleni.

"Broken sports equipment" Kuhlala izinto zokudlala ezaphuki-

leyo, wacacisa watsho uLucky, ekhupha isitshixo epokothweni. "Akukho mntu uzayo apha."
"Usifumene njani ke isitshixo esi?" Wabuza emangalisiwe, ebheka-bheka lixhala.
"Lula nje. Ndandize kuthathela u*Goofy into* - Old Goofy, ndaza ke ndayibamba ngentloko inombolo yesitshixo awayendinike sona. Ndahamba ke ndaya kuzifunela isitshixo esikwanjalo kwindawo yezitshixo - ngeeranti ezintlanu nje qha! Tu, ingxaki."
"Ngubani ke yena uOld Goofy?" Wabuza.
"Ngumqeqeshi weembaleki. Ukwangutitshala wam wesiXhosa, kodwa ke wonke umntu umbiza u*Goofy*, kuba … hayi ke, ungasel' uzicingela ke nawe."
Wakhanyisa ke umf' omkhulu, yabe nentokazi ilandela ingena nayo. Apha ngaphakathi waqaphela ukuba kukho ubugoxo beendidi ngeendidi - iihedili ezaphukileyo, iibhola zesoka ezigqabhukileyo nemfumba yeemethi zasejimini. UWhitney waziva exuxuzelelwa sisisu - kudibene imihlali nexhala. Wayengaqinisekanga nokuba makenze ntoni na okanye athini na.
"Kutheni na, *ntombi*? Usuke warhwaqela. Akufuni ukuba nam?"
ULucky wabheka nje kancinane emjonga ngelixa avala ucango.
"Hayi ndiyafuna. Qha nje … hm … ukuba kunokuvela umntu asibhaqe apha?"
"Ungoyiki, *baby*. Akukho nento le kanti. Side salifumana ithuba lokuba sikhe sibe sodwa nje sobabini. Andithi nawe ubukunqwenela oko? Kungenjalo ngewungekho apha ngoku," watsho embamba ngesandla emsondeza kuye.
"Kunjalo, kodwa ke … "
"Shhh, *baby*." Wathi esitsho wabe embeka umnwe emlonyeni.

"Sukuba nexhala. Khawundiyeke ndikhe ndikubonise indlela endikuthanda ngayo."
Isisu sikaWhitney ngelo xesha sasingathi siyayaluzela, nokuphefumla oku sele ephemfumlela phezulu. Ngaba lo mfo wayeceba ntoni bethu? Yena wayesitsha ziintambo efuna ukuphuzwa - wayengazange wakhe waphuzwa yinkwenkwe ngaphambili. Wabe ke nalo Lucky wayengumfo onomkhitha kakhulu, ethandwa kakhulu. Yayimonwabisa kakhulu ke into yokubonwa naye, neyokufunwa nguye ngokunjalo. Wathula nje akathetha, elindele ukubona ukuba yintoni na enye aza kuyenza uLucky.

Wathi ke ukuthoba intloko uLucky ukuza ngasemlonyeni kuye; yahlangan' imilebe. UWhitney wawuva umphefumlo wakhe ubetha kuye ezidleleni, wabuva nobo bushushu bemilebe yakhe, ithe nca kweyakhe. Waliva nelo vumba lesiqholo sakhe samakhwapha - okanye mhlawumbi yayisesokutsheva? Okomzuzwana nje wakhe wawubamba umphefumlo. Ngaba kwakusenzeka ngenene konke oku? Wayengazange wakhe waziva ngohlobo awayeziva ngalo- waziva ngathi kukho into emfunqulela phezulu. Akazange aqaphele nangoku le ntwana imtyhalayo isiya kumbeka kuloo mfumba yeemethi zasejimini.
Bathi natya apho ngamacala, bejongene. Ngalo lonke elo xesha uLucky akayekanga ukumphuza. Ingalo le yakhe yayisele imthe wole esinqeni apha, kwaza kwathi kungekudala wasiva naso isandla sakhe sisihla sinyuka apha emqolo, side siye kutsho nasezimpundwini phaya. Ngelo xesha ke intliziyo kaWhitney ayixhentsi, iyaxhuma-xhuma. Amehlo uwavale mba; untywilile eluthandweni.
Sele engxamile ke ngoku - ngaba yintoni eza kulandela oku

kuphuzwa? Ngaba kwakunokuba njani ukuba wayenokukhe ambambe naye? Wayenokuthini ukuba le nkwenkwe yayinokusuka imhlola-hlole ngesandla? Ngaba wayeza kuyinqanda? Wayengaqondi ukuba angayinqanda - indlela eyayimbamba ngayo yayisitsho kamnandi ngokungathethekiyo. Wayebuzibula obunje bona ubumnandi. Phofu ngaba kwakufanelekile konke oku? Iingcinga zakhe ngoku zaziphala ukudlula nokubetha kwentliziyo yakhe. Mhlawumbi lalingekafiki ixesha lokuba akwenze konke oku. Mhlawumbi le meko yayingaphaya kwakhe, ikhawuleze kakhulu ukumfikela. Kambe ke wathula akathetha.

Kwavakala ukrolokoqo, lwavuleka ucango. Wothuka uWhitney, wathi vumbululu ukuphakama oku. ULucky yena wayesaswabuluka, ebungqengqa, ebuhlala, ngelixa uNkskz Pillay abalekisa amehlo kulo lonke eli gumbi.

"Kuqhubeka nton' apha?" Amehlo kaNkskz Pillay athi ekuWhitney abe ekuLucky, aphinde abuyele kuWhitney.

"Whitney! Ayinakuba nguwe lo! Kuqhubeka ntoni kanye apha?" Wabuza ngqongqo ngoku, ebonakala kakuhle nje ukuba umangalisiwe ngulo mbono. Ilizwi lakhe yayingelilo eli lalibalasele ngokuthamba nobubele phaya kwizifundo zesiNgesi. Yena uWhitney wayeyibona inkxalabo emehlweni katitshalakazi wakhe.

"Ewe, Ma'am … akukho nto iqhubekayo, Ma'am … Ndi … ndicel' uxolo Ma'am," watshothozelisa watsho, izandla zakhe zisazama ukulungisa ilokhwe yakhe. Wayengazange akhe ayicinge into yokuba umntu uyakwazi ukuthi ebeshushu ajike ngomzuzwana nje, agodole.

"Besi… uhm … besize kuthatha nje ezinye iihedili," watsho uLucky, koko wamkhawulezela wamshunqulela uNkskz Pillay.

"Ungakh' uling' undixokise mna, mfana. Ezi hedili zaphukile, kwaye akungeni bafundi kwesi sitora. Uvuyelela le ntombazana? Nizama ukwenzani kanye nina nobabini?"
"N-N-Nakanye Ma'am, si… singabahlobo nje, kunjalo nje akukho nto sikhe sayenza." ULucky wathintitha watsho, eqondele phantsi.
UWhitney yena wayengazi nokuba makajonge ngaphi na, engangathi, "Vuleka mhlaba, ndingene!" Wayephume ebushushwini wangena engqeleni, basuka ngoku baphinda babuya ubushushu, engazi nokuba uNkskz Pillay wayemqaphela na indlela aphoxeke ngayo. Wayemanzi tixi kukuphoxeka!