



Abaqophi BakwaZisize Abakhanyayo Children's Radio project

Ukuhlanganisa isikhathi semishanguzo nesokudlala / Juggling pill-time with playtime

Nobuhle, 11 years old, 2009

- SFX: Sound of pills being taken out of plastic bag
- Nobuhle: Amaphilisi kagogo kufike kube ilawa e-BP bese kuba ilawa, lawa angiwazi ngawani gogo?
- Here are my grandmother's pills; these ones are for blood pressure, and these...these...I don't know these ones, what are they for Granny?*
- Gogo: Nami angiwazi naku kubhaliwe angifundanga.
- I also don't know but it's written there. I can't read.*
- Nobuhle: Igama lami ngiwuNobuhle, ingane endala ekhaya yimi, ngoba yimi engisiza ugogo futhi akekho omunakekelayo. Nami ngiyamthanda ngoba uyangithengela i-uniform, nguye angifundisa esikoleni. Umama washona ngisemncane angazi noma ngangina-3 years. Washona ngangingamazi ngigcina ngokumbona esithombeni. Mina kungiphatha kabi ukuthi ubaba wami wangilahla futhi kusafana nokuthi sengiyintandane.
- Ngineminyaka ewu 11 indawo engihlala kuyo kuseduze nasebrijini. Engikuthandayo, ngithanda ukulalela i radio uTshatha.
- My name is Nobuhle, I am the eldest child here at home and the one who helps Granny; there is nobody else who takes care of her. I love her because she buys my [school] uniform and she is the one who sends me to school. My mother died when I was still young, I think I was 3 years old. She died before I was old enough to remember her: I have only seen her in photos. I am not happy that my father abandoned me, because I feel like an orphan.*
- I am 11 years old. I live in the area close to the bridge. I like listening to the radio – to the presenter called Tshatha.*
- SFX : Door opening
- Nakh'endlini yakhiwe ngodaka. Yakhiwa ngezingodo ezigwegwile, nangabothayela mina ngilala lapha phakathi nendawo. Kube ugogo kube ilabo engilala nabo ngoba kunomamncane, ugogo ulala lapha, umamncane ulala la bese kuthi oVusa. Mina ngilala lapha kamakhelwane koMasisi ayikh'indawo.

Here is our house made out of mud; it is built out of wooden poles and corrugated iron sheets. I sleep in the middle. Granny sleeps on one side and the others on the other side but when Auntie is here, Granny sleeps over there and auntie sleeps here and Vusa sleeps here. [When Aunt is here there is not enough space for all of us] so I go and sleep at the neighbour's house.

SFX: Goats

Laph'edwaleni lami ngibona izihlahla kanye nezinhlaba ezi yellow esezibhayile kanye nesihlahla somthunduluka. Ngidlala noSipho naboMasisi naboVusa sidlala esikuthandayo nje. Uma sithanda omunye ame lapha ezansi simdaye ngebhola. Isihlahla semnoyi nasi, nasi lesihlahla semnoyi esikha kuso umnoyi, sifike sigibele lapha nazi inkombosi esikha ngazo ma kunomnoyi sifike sikhele khona sikhele abazali bethu ogogo badle ngizwa kumnandi kunoshukela.

Here from my rock, I can see trees and the aloes with yellow flowers and mthunduluka trees. I play here with Sipho, Masisi and Vusa - whatever game we like. Sometimes one of us stands down over there and we throw the ball to him. Here is a mnoyi tree, where we get our mnoyi berries. We climb up over here – this is the pole that we use [to knock the berries down]. We pick them for Granny and others. They taste so nice and sweet.

Nobuhle: Sawubona Gogo.

Hello Granny.

Gogo: Yebo.

Hello.

Nobuhle: Ngicela uzichaze ngempilo yakho.

Please tell us about your life.

Gogo: Impilo yami ngiyagula ngalimala uma ngihambile noma ngithi ngiyolima engadini ngifike ngigule kungavumi ngihambe. Nempilo yami engiphila yona lapha indlu anginayo manje ngathe ngiyakhile phesheya.

I am not well: I was injured, and when I try to walk even just to my vegetable garden, I become so weak that I can't walk. The life I am living... I don't have a proper house now, but I have built one across the river.

Nobuhle: Kwasukephi ukuzohlala lana?

Why did you come to live here?

Gogo: Kwakushukuthi uma silele sishaywe abantu endlini phezulu othayeleni. Sebathi-ke ake ngiqale ngizohlala la nganeno phesheya, ngihlala nalaba nje abazukulu bobathathu ebashonelwa omama babo.

What was happening at that house [across the river] was that every evening when we went to sleep, people would throw stones on the roof. Then it was decided that I should come and live here instead. I stay here with my three grandchildren who have lost their mothers.

Nobuhle: Mina ngikusiza kanjani?

How do I help you?

Gogo: UNobuhle ngoba uyangisiza ufundisa odadewabo bangikhele amanzi bathi vukani asambeni siyokhela ugogo amanzi. Ajike uNobuhle uma evuke kumnyama athi ubona izipokwe ngibuye ngivuke ngibaphelekeze angisize okunye kwezingane kukhe ngo 5 litre, 5 litre loku okubili bakhelele amanzi kube iwona angisizayo uNobuhle angisiza ngakho: uNobuhle uyangikhumbuza amaphilisi uma ngikhohliwe athi ugwinyile yini gogo sengiyawakhumbula sengiyagwinya.

Nobuhle helps me by teaching her sisters to fetch water for me. She tells them: "Wake up, let's go and fetch water for Granny". Sometimes when it is dark they turn back saying Nobuhle has seen a ghost! I eventually wake up and go with them [to fetch water]. They help me: one of the children carries a 5 litre bottle. That is how Nobuhle helps me, she reminds me to take my medication and always asks: "Have you swallowed your pills yet, Gogo?"

Nobuhle Ugogo waginqika ngemoto ngo 2005 uyakwazi ukuhamba kodwa akakwazi ukuhamba kakhulu akahambi ibanga elide bese kudinga ukuthi ngimsize ngihambe ngiyokha amanzi ngibuye ngizopheka uma ngiqeda ukupheka ngimphakele sithi uma siqeda ukudla sihambe siyokha amanzi bese kuthi ugogo bese siphinde simbekelela amanzi ntambama ageze uma aqedukugeza simphakele adle bese uphuza amaphilisi.

Ngiyazizwa nje ngiphakathi nendawo ngoba kwesinye isikhathi angikutholi ukudlala. Ngiyathanda nokudlala ngithola isikhathi esincane bese uma ngiqeda lapho ukudlala ngisuke ngihambe futhi ngiyobona ugogo ukuthi unjani ma agula ngisheshe ngimbukele eduze, eduze, eduze.

Granny was involved in a car accident in 2005. She can still walk but she can't walk long distances, so she needs me to help her to fetch water and then come back and cook. When I finish cooking I will dish for her. After eating we go and fetch water and heat it for her so she can bath in the evening. Then we dish up food for her again and she eats. Then she takes her pills.

I don't feel so happy because sometimes I do not get time to go and play with my friends: I like to play. I get only a short time to play and when I finish I have to rush home to see how Granny is doing. When she is sick I stay close to her all the time: I watch her closely, closely, closely.

SFX: Music

Nobuhle: Mase ngimdala ngifisa ukuba yinesi ngisize abanye ngoba nabo uma ngigula bayangisiza.

Nisale kahle balaleli umlayezo enginisihiya nawo ngicela nisize ogogo noma bagula ngoba njengami owami ngimsiza.

When I grow up I would like to be a nurse, to help others because when I am sick they help me.

Goodbye listeners. My message is that you should help your grandparents even when they are sick just like me: I help my granny.

SFX: Music



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