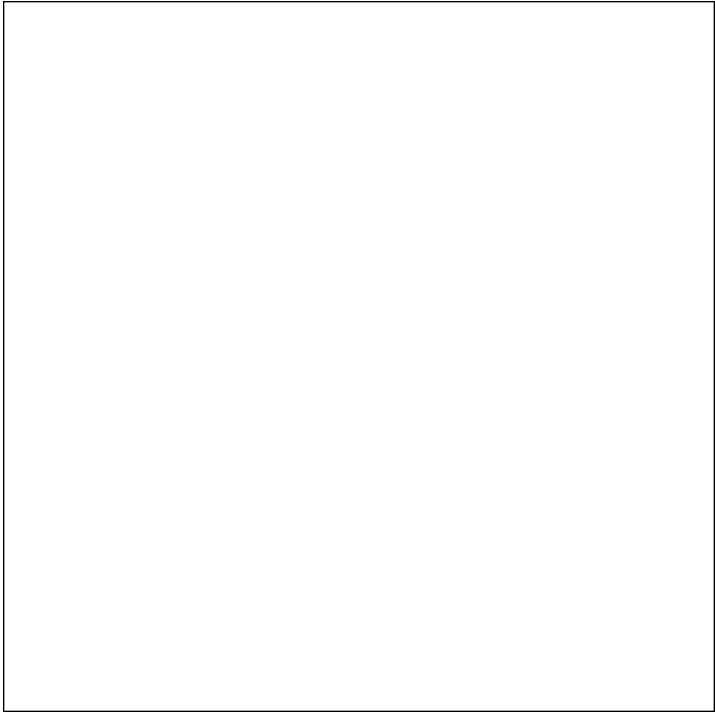




(imageless edition)

✎ Rukia Nantale
👤 Benjamin Mitchley
📖 Asma Afreen
🗣️ Bengali / English
📖 Level 5



Simbegwire

সিমবেইর



Storybooks Canada

storybookscanada.ca

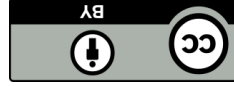
সিমবেইর / Simbegwire

Written by: Rukia Nantale

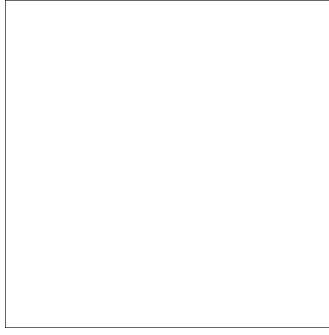
Illustrated by: Benjamin Mitchley

Translated by: (bn) Asma Afreen

This story originates from the African Storybook (africanstorybook.org) and is brought to you by Storybooks Canada in an effort to provide children's stories in Canada's many languages.



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 International License.
<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0>



যখন সিম্বেগুইরের মা মারা গেলেন, সে অনেক কষ্ট পেল। সিম্বেগুইরের বাবা তাঁর মেয়ের যথাসাধ্য যত্ন নিতেন। ধীরে ধীরে তারা সিম্বেগুইরের মাকে ছাড়া খুশি থাকা শিখে গেলেন। প্রতি সকালে তারা বসে আগামী দিনের ব্যাপারে কথা বলতেন। প্রতি সন্ধ্যায় তারা একসাথে সান্ধ্যভোজের আয়োজন করতেন। বাসন ধোয়ার পর, সিম্বেগুইরের বাবা তাকে স্কুলের কাজে সাহায্য করতেন।

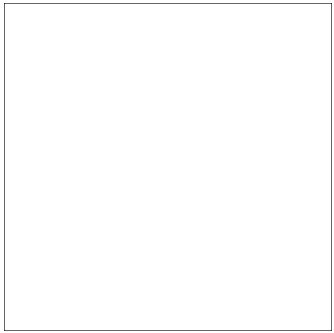
...

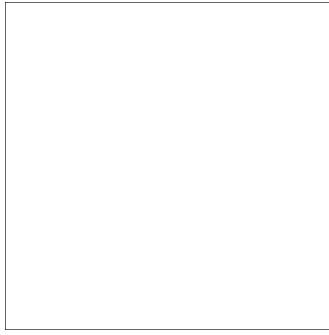
When Simbegwire's mother died, she was very sad. Simbegwire's father did his best to take care of his daughter. Slowly, they learned to feel happy again, without Simbegwire's mother. Every morning they sat and talked about the day ahead. Every evening they made dinner together. After they washed the dishes, Simbegwire's father helped her with homework.

One day, Simbegwire's father came home later than usual. "Where are you my child?" he called. Simbegwire ran to her father. She stopped still when she saw that he was holding a woman's hand. "I want you to meet someone special, my child. This is Anita," he said smiling.

...

ଓକାଦିନ ଫିଷ୍ଟଭେରୁଟି ବାବା ଆନ୍ୟ ଡିନେର ଡିନାସ ମେଣ୍ଟିଲେ ବାବୁ ଫିଷ୍ଟଭେରୁଟି । ମଲଭା ରାୟମାଲି ମିଲିକା ଡିଲିକା "କୋସାୟା? " ଡିଲିକା କାଲ ଡିଲିକା । ଫିଷ୍ଟଭେରୁଟି ଡିଲିକା କିଟିଲିକା କାଲ କିଟିଲିକା । ଡିଲିକା କାଲ କିଟିଲିକା କିଟିଲିକା କାଲ କିଟିଲିକା । ଡିଲିକା କାଲ କିଟିଲିକା କିଟିଲିକା କାଲ କିଟିଲିକା ।

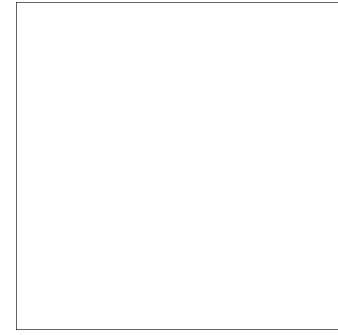




“হ্যালো, সিম্বেগুইরে, তোমার বাবা আমাকে তোমার সম্পর্কে অনেক কিছু বলেছেন,” আনিতা বললেন। কিন্তু তিনি না হাসলেন না মেয়েটির হাত ধরলেন। সিম্বেগুইরের বাবা অনেক খুশি এবং উচ্ছলিত ছিলেন। তিনি তাদের তিনজনের একসাথে থাকা, আর কিভাবে এতে করে তাদের জীবন সুন্দর হবে, এই ব্যাপারে কথা বললেন। “মামনি, আশা করি তুমি আনিতাকে তোমার মা হিসেবে মেনে নিবে,” তিনি বললেন।

...

“Hello Simbegwire, your father told me a lot about you,” said Anita. But she did not smile or take the girl’s hand. Simbegwire’s father was happy and excited. He talked about the three of them living together, and how good their life would be. “My child, I hope you will accept Anita as your mother,” he said.



পরের সপ্তাহে, আনিতা সিম্বেগুইরে, তার ফুফাতো ভাইবোন এবং তার ফুফুকে বাড়িতে খাওয়ার জন্য আমন্ত্রণ জানালেন। কি যে দারুণ ভোজ! আনিতা সিম্বেগুইরের প্রিয় সব খাবার রান্না করেছিলেন এবং সবাই পেট ভরে খেলেন। তারপর বড়দের কথা বলার সময় বাচ্চারা খেলা করল। সিম্বেগুইরে অনেক খুশি এবং সাহসী অনুভব করছিল। সে সিদ্ধান্ত নিল যে শীঘ্রই, খুব শীঘ্রই, সে তার বাবা ও সৎমায়ের সাথে বসবাসের জন্য বাড়ি ফিরে যাবে।

...

The next week, Anita invited Simbegwire, with her cousins and aunt, to the house for a meal. What a feast! Anita prepared all of Simbegwire’s favourite foods, and everyone ate until they were full. Then the children played while the adults talked. Simbegwire felt happy and brave. She decided that soon, very soon, she would return home to live with her father and her stepmother.

ନିଷ୍ଠେଇଁହେବ ଜ୍ଞୀବନ ବଦଳେ ଖେଳ । ସକାଳେବେଳା ସେ ତାର ବାବା ସମେତ ବସାଏ
ମତ ଆସ କୋଳେ ଅମୟ ଥାକଳ ନା । ଆଗିତାତେକେ ଶୁଣିଲେ ତେବେ ଶୁଣି
କାଜ କରତେ ନିତ ସେ ଯେ ଅନ୍ୟାବେଳା ସାକ୍ଷି କରତେ କାଜ କରତେ ହେ
ମୁଁ । ଯେ ସାତେର ଧାବାପୋର ସମ୍ପର୍କ ତା ବିଚାରାସାଧ୍ୟ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ । ତେବେ
ଚକ୍ରମାତ୍ର ଯେ ତାର ସାମାନ୍ୟ ଶୁଣିଲେ ତାର ସାମାନ୍ୟ ଶୁଣିଲେ କଣ୍ଠାଟି । ନିଷ୍ଠେଇଁହେବ ବାବା
ତାର ସେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ତା ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ।

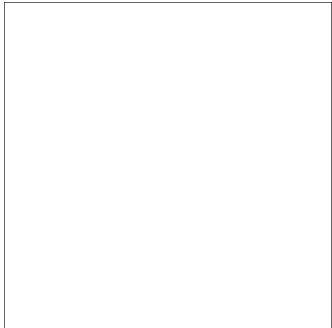
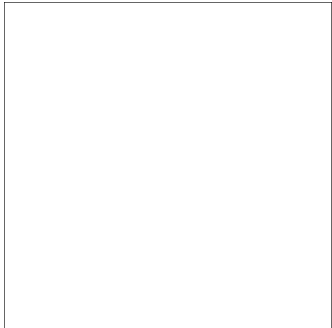
...

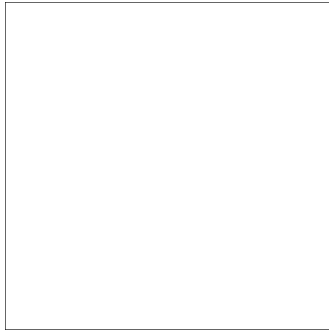
Simbegwire's life changed. She no longer had time to sit with her father in the mornings. Anita gave her so many household chores that she was too tired to do her school work in the evenings. She went straight to bed after dinner. Her only comfort was the colourful blanket her mother gave her. Simbegwire's father did not seem to notice that his daughter was unhappy.

ତାର ବାବା ତାକେ ଶୁଣିନି ନେହେତେ ଆମତେନ । ଆବମେଷେ ତିନି ଆଗିତାତେକେ
ମାତ୍ର ଶୁଣିଲେ ଆମତେନ । ଆଗିତାତେକେ ନିଷ୍ଠେଇଁହେବ ସେତେବେଳେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ
ଖେଳେନ । "ଆଗିତାତେକେ ଅନ୍ୟାବେଳା ସାକ୍ଷି କରତେ କାଜ କରତେ ହେ", "ଆଗିତାତେକେ
ସକାଳେବେଳା ସେ ତାର ବାବା ସମେତ ବସାଏ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ
ନିଷ୍ଠେଇଁହେବ ତାର ବାବା ସମେତ ବସାଏ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ
ଖେଳେନ । "ଆଗିତାତେକେ ଅନ୍ୟାବେଳା ସାକ୍ଷି କରତେ କାଜ କରତେ ହେ", "ଆଗିତାତେକେ
ସକାଳେବେଳା ସେ ତାର ବାବା ସମେତ ବସାଏ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ
ନିଷ୍ଠେଇଁହେବ ତାର ବାବା ସମେତ ବସାଏ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ ଯେ
ଖେଳେନ ।

...

Her father visited her every day. Eventually, he came with Anita. She reached out for Simbegwire's hand. "I'm so sorry little one, I was wrong," she cried. "Will you let me try again?" Simbegwire looked at her father and his worried face. Then she stepped forward slowly and put her arms around Anita.

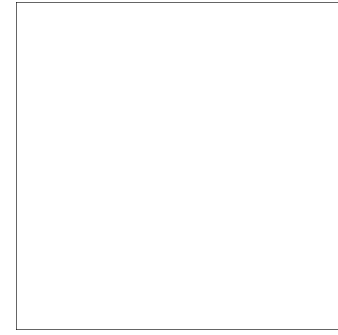




কয়েক মাস পর, সিম্বেগুইরের বাবা তাদের বললেন যে তিনি কিছুদিনের জন্য বাড়ির বাহিরে যাবেন। “আমাকে আমার কাজের জন্য সফরে যেতে হবে,” তিনি বললেন। “কিন্তু আমি জানি তোমরা একে অপরকে দেখে রাখবে।” সিম্বেগুইরের মুখ মলিন হয়ে গেল, কিন্তু তার বাবা তা খেয়াল করলেন না। আনিতা কিছু বললেন না। তিনিও খুশি ছিলেন না।

...

After a few months, Simbegwire’s father told them that he would be away from home for a while. “I have to travel for my job,” he said. “But I know you will look after each other.” Simbegwire’s face fell, but her father did not notice. Anita did not say anything. She was not happy either.



সিম্বেগুইরে তাঁর ফুফাতো ভাইবোনদের সাথে খেলছিল যখন সে তার বাবাকে দূর থেকে দেখতে পেল। সে ভয় পেল যে তার বাবা রেগে যাবেন, তাই সে লুকোতে বাড়ির ভিতরে দৌড়ে গেল। কিন্তু তার বাবা তার কাছে গেলেন আর বললেন, “সিম্বেগুইরে, তুমি তোমার জন্য একজন আদর্শ মা খুঁজে পেয়েছ, যে তোমাকে ভালবাসেন এবং বুঝেন। আমি তোমাকে নিয়ে গর্বিত এবং আমি তোমাকে ভালবাসি।” তারা একমত হল যে সিম্বেগুইরে যতদিন খুশি ততদিন তার ফুফুর বাড়ি থাকতে পারবে।

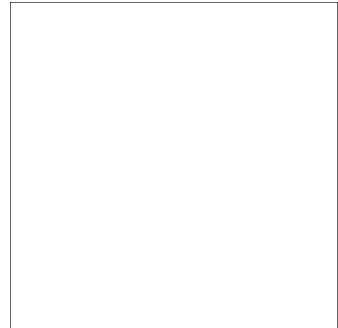
...

Simbegwire was playing with her cousins when she saw her father from far away. She was scared he might be angry, so she ran inside the house to hide. But her father went to her and said, “Simbegwire, you have found a perfect mother for yourself. One who loves you and understands you. I am proud of you and I love you.” They agreed that Simbegwire would stay with her aunt as long as she wanted to.

ନିକ୍ଷେପିତ ହେବା ପାଇଁ ସମସ୍ତ ଆବଶ୍ୟକତା ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଭାବରେ ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ହୋଇଛି । ଯଦି କିଛି ଅସୁବିଧା ଥାଏ ତାହା ସମ୍ଭବତଃ କମଳାଙ୍କୁ କୁହାଯାଇଥିବ । ତେଣୁ କିଛି ଅସୁବିଧା ହେଉଥିବା ସମ୍ଭାବନା ନାହିଁ ।

...

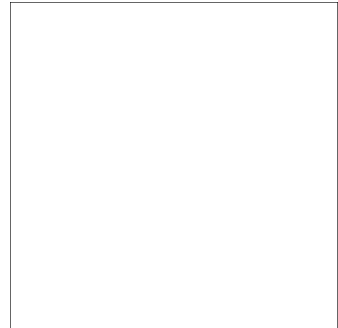
Things got worse for Simbegwire. If she didn't finish her chores, or she complained, Anita hit her. And at dinner, the woman ate most of the food, leaving Simbegwire with only a few scraps. Each night Simbegwire cried herself to sleep, hugging her mother's blanket.

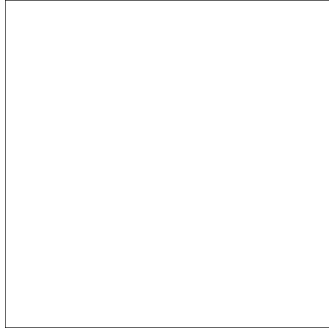


ସମସ୍ତ ନିକ୍ଷେପିତ ହେବା ପାଇଁ ସମସ୍ତ ଆବଶ୍ୟକତା ସମ୍ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ଭାବରେ ପୂର୍ଣ୍ଣ ହୋଇଛି । ଯଦି କିଛି ଅସୁବିଧା ଥାଏ ତାହା ସମ୍ଭବତଃ କମଳାଙ୍କୁ କୁହାଯାଇଥିବ । ତେଣୁ କିଛି ଅସୁବିଧା ହେଉଥିବା ସମ୍ଭାବନା ନାହିଁ ।

...

When Simbegwire's father returned home, he found her room empty. "What happened, Anita?" he asked with a heavy heart. The woman explained that Simbegwire had run away. "I wanted her to respect me," she said. "But perhaps I was too strict." Simbegwire's father left the house and went in the direction of the stream. He continued to his sister's village to find out if she had seen Simbegwire.





এক সকালে সিম্বেগুইরের বিছানা থেকে উঠতে দেরী হয়ে গেল।
“অলস মেয়ে কোথাকার!” আনিতা চেঁচিয়ে উঠলেন। তিনি বিছানা থেকে সিম্বেগুইরেকে হেঁচড়া টানে বাহিরে ফেললেন। সিম্বেগুইরের প্রাণপ্রিয় কম্বলটি একটি পেরেকে আঁটকে দু’টুকরো হয়ে গেল।

...

One morning, Simbegwire was late getting out of bed.
“You lazy girl!” Anita shouted. She pulled Simbegwire out of bed. The precious blanket caught on a nail, and tore in two.



সিম্বেগুইরের ফুফু বাচ্চাটিকে তাঁর নিজ বাড়িতে নিয়ে গেলেন। তিনি সিম্বেগুইরেকে গরম খাবার দিলেন, এবং তাকে বিছানায় তার মার কম্বল দিয়ে জড়িয়ে দিলেন। সেই রাতে সিম্বেগুইরে কাঁদতে কাঁদতে ঘুমিয়ে পড়ল। কিন্তু তা ছিল স্বস্তির অক্ষণ। সে জানত যে তার ফুফু তার যত্ন নিবে।

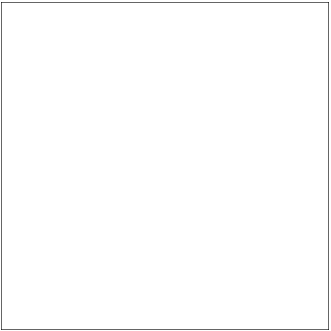
...

Simbegwire’s aunt took the child to her own house. She gave Simbegwire warm food, and tucked her in bed with her mother’s blanket. That night, Simbegwire cried as she went to sleep. But they were tears of relief. She knew her aunt would look after her.

Simbegwire was very upset. She decided to run away from home. She took the pieces of her mother's blanket, packed some food, and left the house. She followed the road her father had taken.

...

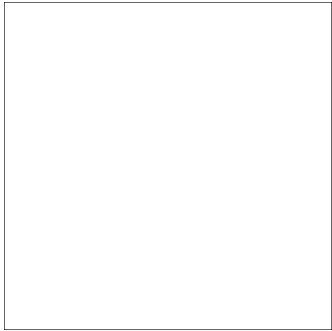
ସିମ୍ବେୱିର ସ୍ତ୍ରୀ ସମ୍ଭୀତ ହେଲା । ସେ ଗାଁ ଯେଉଁଠି ଯାଇଥିଲା ସେଠି ସିମ୍ବେୱିର ପୁଅ କିଛି ଖାଦ୍ୟ ଓ ଖଣ୍ଡିଆ ଖଣ୍ଡିଆ କାଗଜି ଲାଗି କଣ୍ଠା ବାନ୍ଧି ନେଇ ଯାଇଥିଲା । ସେ ତାଙ୍କ ଘର ଛାଡ଼ି ଯାଇଥିଲା । ସେ ତାଙ୍କ ଘର ଛାଡ଼ି ଯାଇଥିଲା । ସେ ତାଙ୍କ ଘର ଛାଡ଼ି ଯାଇଥିଲା ।

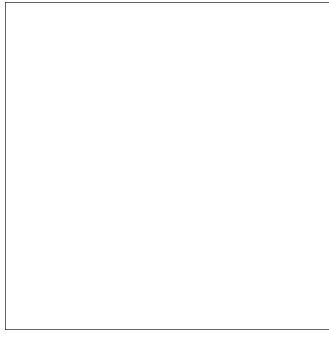


This woman looked up into the tree. When she saw the girl and the pieces of colourful blanket, she cried, "Simbegwire, my brother's child!" The other women from the tree. Her aunt hugged the little girl and tried to comfort her.

...

ସିମ୍ବେୱିର ମାଆ ତାଙ୍କ ଗାଁରୁ ଯାଇଥିଲା । ସେ ଗାଁରୁ ଯାଇଥିଲା । ସେ ଗାଁରୁ ଯାଇଥିଲା । ସେ ଗାଁରୁ ଯାଇଥିଲା । ସେ ଗାଁରୁ ଯାଇଥିଲା । ସେ ଗାଁରୁ ଯାଇଥିଲା । ସେ ଗାଁରୁ ଯାଇଥିଲା । ସେ ଗାଁରୁ ଯାଇଥିଲା ।

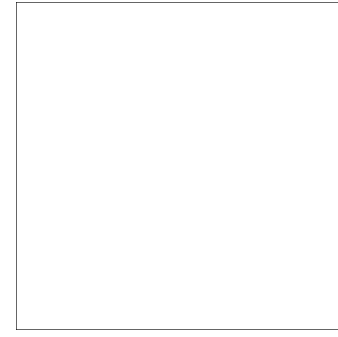




যখন সন্ধ্যা নেমে এল, তখন সে এক নদীর ধারের উঁচু গাছ বেঁয়ে উঠল এবং এটির ডালে নিজের জন্য বিছানা পাতল। সে ঘুমিয়ে পড়তে পড়তে গাইতে লাগল, “মা, মা, মা, তুমি আমাকে ছেড়ে চলে গেছ। তুমি আমাকে ছেড়ে চলে গেছ এবং কখনো ফিরে আসনি। বাবা আমাকে আর ভালবাসে না। মা, তুমি কখন ফিরে আসবে? তুমি আমাকে ছেড়ে চলে গেছ।”

...

When it came to evening, she climbed a tall tree near a stream and made a bed for herself in the branches. As she went to sleep, she sang: “Maama, maama, maama, you left me. You left me and never came back. Father doesn’t love me anymore. Mother, when are you coming back? You left me.”



পরদিন সকালে সিম্বেগুইরে গানটি আবার গাইল। যখন মহিলারা নদীতে তাঁদের কাপড় ধুতে আসলেন, তাঁরা উঁচু গাছটি থেকে করুণ গানটি ভেসে আসতে শুনলেন। তাঁরা এটিকে শুধুমাত্র বাতাসে পাতার মর্মর শব্দ ভাবলেন এবং নিজেদের কাজ করতে থাকলেন। কিন্তু একজন মহিলা গানটি অনেক মনোযোগ সহকারে শুনলেন।

...

The next morning, Simbegwire sang the song again. When the women came to wash their clothes at the stream, they heard the sad song coming from the tall tree. They thought it was only the wind rustling the leaves, and carried on with their work. But one of the women listened very carefully to the song.