# አህያ ሆኖ የተወለደው ልጅ

# Donkey Child

Lindiwe Matshikiza
Meghan Judge
Dawit Girma
Amharic / English
Level 3

(imageless edition)

አንዲት ህጻን ልጅ አንድ የሆነ አስገራሚ ቅርጽ ከርቀት ተመለከተች።

...

It was a little girl who first saw the mysterious shape in the distance.

ያ ቅርጽ እየቀረበ ሲመጣ ድርስ እርጉዝ ሴት መሆኗን ህጻኗ ተረዳች።

...

As the shape moved closer, she saw that it was a heavily pregnant woman.

ዓይንአፋር ግን ደግሞ ጎበዝ የሆነችው ይህች ህጻን እርጉዟን ሴትዮ ተጠጋቻት። ‹‹ይህችን ሴት ከእኛ ጋር ማኖር አለብን›› በማለት የህጻኗ ቤተ ዘመዶች ወሰኑ። ‹‹እሷን ከእኛ ጋር እናኖራታለን፤ ልጇንም እንንከባከባለን።››

...

Shy but brave, the little girl moved nearer to the woman. “We must keep her with us,” the little girl’s people decided. “We’ll keep her and her child safe.”

ወዲያው ምጥ ጀመራት። ‹‹ግፊ!›› ‹‹ብርድ ልብስ አምጡ!›› ‹‹ውሃ!›› ‹‹ግፊፊፊፊፊፊ!!!››

...

The child was soon on its way. “Push!” “Bring blankets!” “Water!” “Puuuuussssshhh!!!”

ነገር ግን ህጻኑን ሲያዩ ሁሉም በድንጋጤ ወደኋላ አፈገፈጉ። ‹‹አህያ?!››

...

But when they saw the baby, everyone jumped back in shock. “A donkey?!”

ሁሉም መከራከር ያዘ። ‹‹እናትና ልጇን እንንከባከባለን ብለን ቃል ገብተን ነበር፤ አሁንም ቢሆን ማድረግ ያለብን እሱን ነው።›› ሲሉ አንዳንዶቹ፤ ሌሎቹ ደግሞ ‹‹ግን መጥፎ እድል ሊያመጡብን ይችላሉ›› አሉ።

...

Everyone began to argue. “We said we would keep mother and child safe, and that’s what we’ll do,” said some. “But they will bring us bad luck!” said others.

በመሆኑም ሴትዮዋ እንደገና ብቸኝነት ተሰማት። ሴትዮዋ ግራ ተጋባች፤ ይህንን ያልተጠበቀ ፍጡር ምን እንደምታደርገው ጨነቃት። ምን ማድረግ እንዳለባት አላወቀችም፣ በጣም ተወዛገበች።

...

And so the woman found herself alone again. She wondered what to do with this awkward child. She wondered what to do with herself.

በስተመጨረሻም ፍጡሩ ልጇ መሆኑንና እሷም እናቱ መሆኗን አምና ተቀበለች።

...

But finally she had to accept that he was her child and she was his mother.

አሁን ነገሮች ሁሉ አስቸጋሪ እየሆኑ መጥተዋል። ልጁ እንደተወለደ ባለው የአካል መጠን በዚያው ቢቀጥል ልዩ ነገር ነው የሚሆነው። ሲያድግም ለናትየዋ ለመንከባከብ፣ ለማዘል ይቸግራታል። የሆነ ሆኖ ህጻኑ አህያ ለእናትየዋ በጀርባዋ ማዘል እስኪያቅታት ድረስ እያደገ መጣ። እናም ልጁ የጣረውን ያህል ቢጥር ልክ እንደሰው ያለ ባህርይ ሊኖረው አልተቻለውም። እናትየዋም እየደከማት እየፈራችም መጣች። አንዳንዴ እንስሳት እንደሚሰሩት ያለ ስራ እንዲሰራ ታደርገዋለች።

...

Now, if the child had stayed that same, small size, everything might have been different. But the donkey child grew and grew until he could no longer fit on his mother’s back. And no matter how hard he tried, he could not behave like a human being. His mother was often tired and frustrated. Sometimes she made him do work meant for animals.

አህያው በውስጡ ግራ መጋባትና ብስጭት እያየለበት መጣ። ይህንና ያንን ማድረግ ላይኖርበት ይችላል፤ እንደዚህ መምሰል እንደዛም መምሰል አይኖርበትም። በዚህ መወዛገብ ውስጥ ሆኖ ይናደዳል፤ አንድ ቀን እናቱን በርግጫ መታትና ከመሬት ጋር አጋጫት።

...

Confusion and anger built up inside Donkey. He couldn’t do this and he couldn’t do that. He couldn’t be like this and he couldn’t be like that. He became so angry that, one day, he kicked his mother to the ground.

አህያው በጣም ሃፍረት ተሰማው። ከዚያ ሮጠ። የሚችለውን ያህል ፈጥኖ በጣም ሩቅ ወደሆነ ቦታ ፈረጠጠ።

...

Donkey was filled with shame. He started to run away as far and fast as he could.

መሮጡን ሲያቆም መሽቶ ነበር፣ በዚህም አጋጣሚ አህያው ጠፋ። ‹‹ሃ ሂሃ ሂሃ›› አህያው ጨለማው ውስጥ አስካካ። ‹‹ሃ ሂሃ ሂሃ›› ይላል ደግሞ። ግን የገደል ማሚቶው ብቻ ያስተጋባል። ብቻውን ሆነ። ከባድ የድካም ስሜት እንደተጫነው ጥቅልል ብሎ ተኛ።

...

By the time he stopped running, it was night, and Donkey was lost. “Hee haw?” he whispered to the darkness. “Hee Haw?” it echoed back. He was alone. Curling himself into a tight ball, he fell into a deep and troubled sleep.

አህያው ሲነቃ እንግዳ ሽማግሌ ሰውዬ አፍጥጦ ሲያየው አገኘ። ሽማግሌውን ዓይን ዓይኑን እያየ የተስፋ ጭላንጭል ተሰማው።

...

Donkey woke up to find a strange old man staring down at him. He looked into the old man’s eyes and started to feel a twinkle of hope.

አህያው እንዴት መኖር እንደሚገባው የተለያዩ ዘዴዎችን ካስተማረው ከሽማግሌው ሰውዬ ጋር ለመቆዬት አብሮ ሄደ። አህያው በደንብ ያዳምጣል። ትምህርት ይወስዳል። ሽማግሌው ሰውዬም እንደዚያው። እርስበርሳቸው ይረዳዳሉ፤ ይሳሳቃሉም።

...

Donkey went to stay with the old man, who taught him many different ways to survive. Donkey listened and learned, and so did the old man. They helped each other, and they laughed together.

አንድ ቀን ማለዳ ሽማግሌው ሰውዬ አህያውን ተሸክመህ ወደ ተራራ ጫፍ አውጣኝ ሲል ጠየቀው።

...

One morning, the old man asked Donkey to carry him to the top of a mountain.

ተራራው ጫፍ ላይ በደመናው መሃል እንቅልፍ ወሰዳቸው። አህያው በህልሙ እናቱን እንዳመማትና ስትጠራው አየ። እንደነቃ….

...

High up amongst the clouds they fell asleep. Donkey dreamed that his mother was sick and calling to him. And when he woke up...

… ደመናው ጠፍቷል፣ ከጓደኛው ከሽማግሌው ሰውዬ ጋር።

...

... the clouds had disappeared along with his friend, the old man.

አህያ በስተመጨረሻም ምን ማድረግ እንዳለበት አወቀ።

...

Donkey finally knew what to do.

አህያው እናቱን ብቻዋን ሆና በጠፋው ልጇ እያዘነች አገኛት። ለረጂም ጊዜ ፍጥጥ ብለው ተያዩ። ከዚያም ጥብቅብቅ ብለው ተቃቀፉ።

...

Donkey found his mother, alone and mourning her lost child. They stared at each other for a long time. And then hugged each other very hard.

ትንሹ አህያና እናቱ አብረው መኖርና ማደግ ጀመሩ። ህይወታቸውን አብረው ማስቀጠል የሚችሉባቸውን በርካታ መንገዶችም አሰቡ።ቀስ በቀስ ሌሎች ሰዎችና ቤተዘመዶች ተረጋግተው ህይወታቸውን መግፋት ጀመሩ።

...

The donkey child and his mother have grown together and found many ways of living side by side. Slowly, all around them, other families have started to settle.

# Storybooks Canada

storybookscanada.ca

## አህያ ሆኖ የተወለደው ልጅ

## Donkey Child

Written by: Lindiwe Matshikiza
Illustrated by: Meghan Judge
Translated by: (am) Dawit Girma

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 4.0 International License.