Ukuhleka okulahlekileyo

Le ncwadi yeka



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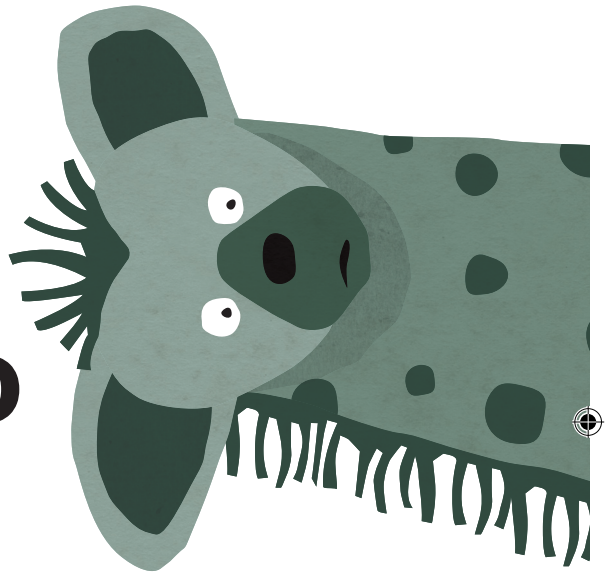
Ukuhleka okulahlekileyo
(The lost laugh)
Illustrated by Karen Lilje
Written by Michelle Preen
Designed by Wilna Combrinck
Edited by Helen Moffett
Translated by Nal'ibali
with the help of the Book Dash participants in Cape Town on 2 December 2017.

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Ukuhleka okulahlekileyo



Karen Lilje Michelle Preen Wilna Combrinck

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UMachaphaza, ingcuka,
wayelusizi kakhulu.
Wayelahlekelwe
kukuhleka kwakhe.



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“Ndincede ndiphinde ndifumane ukuhleka kwam, Ndlulamthi,” wacela.



“Akukho kuhleka

*ndi*kuvayo

phezulu apha,”

watsho

uNdlulamthi.

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“Ndincede ndiphinde ndifumane ukuhleka kwam, Mvubu,” watsho uMachaphaza.

“Akukho kuhleka ndikuvayo ezantsi apha,” watsho uMvubu.



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“Ndincede ndiphinde ndifumane ukuhleka kwam, Nxagu.”



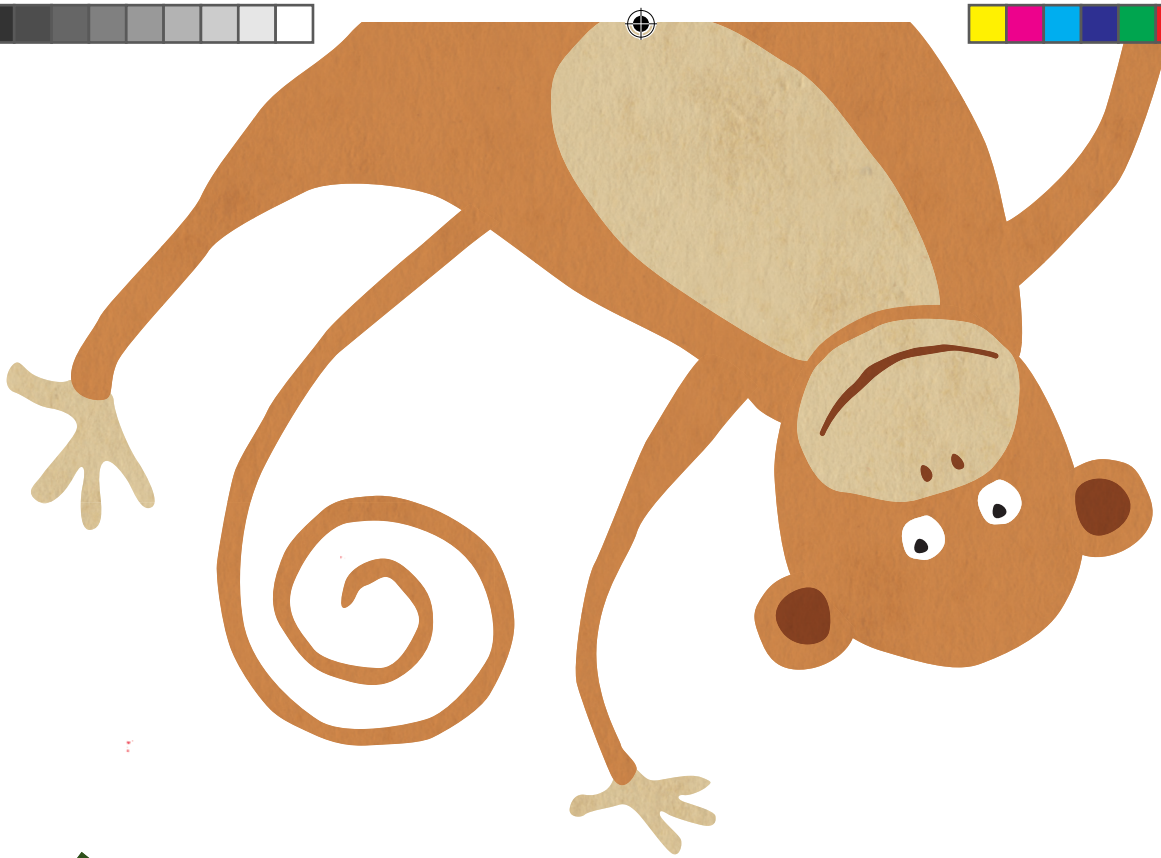
“Andiva kuhleka apha.”



“Ndincede ndiphinde ndifumane ukuhleka kwam, Nkawu,” watsho uMachaphaza.

“Kulahleke njani?” wabuza uNkawu.







“Xa ndihleka, ayabonakala amazinyo am amakhulu. Oko kothusa wonke umntu,” watsho uMachaphaza.

“Ndasuka ke ngoko ndaba lusizi kwasuka kwanyamalala ukuhleka kwam.”





“Andikufumani naphi na.”



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“Kodwa
ubukukhangela
endaweni
engafanelekanga,”

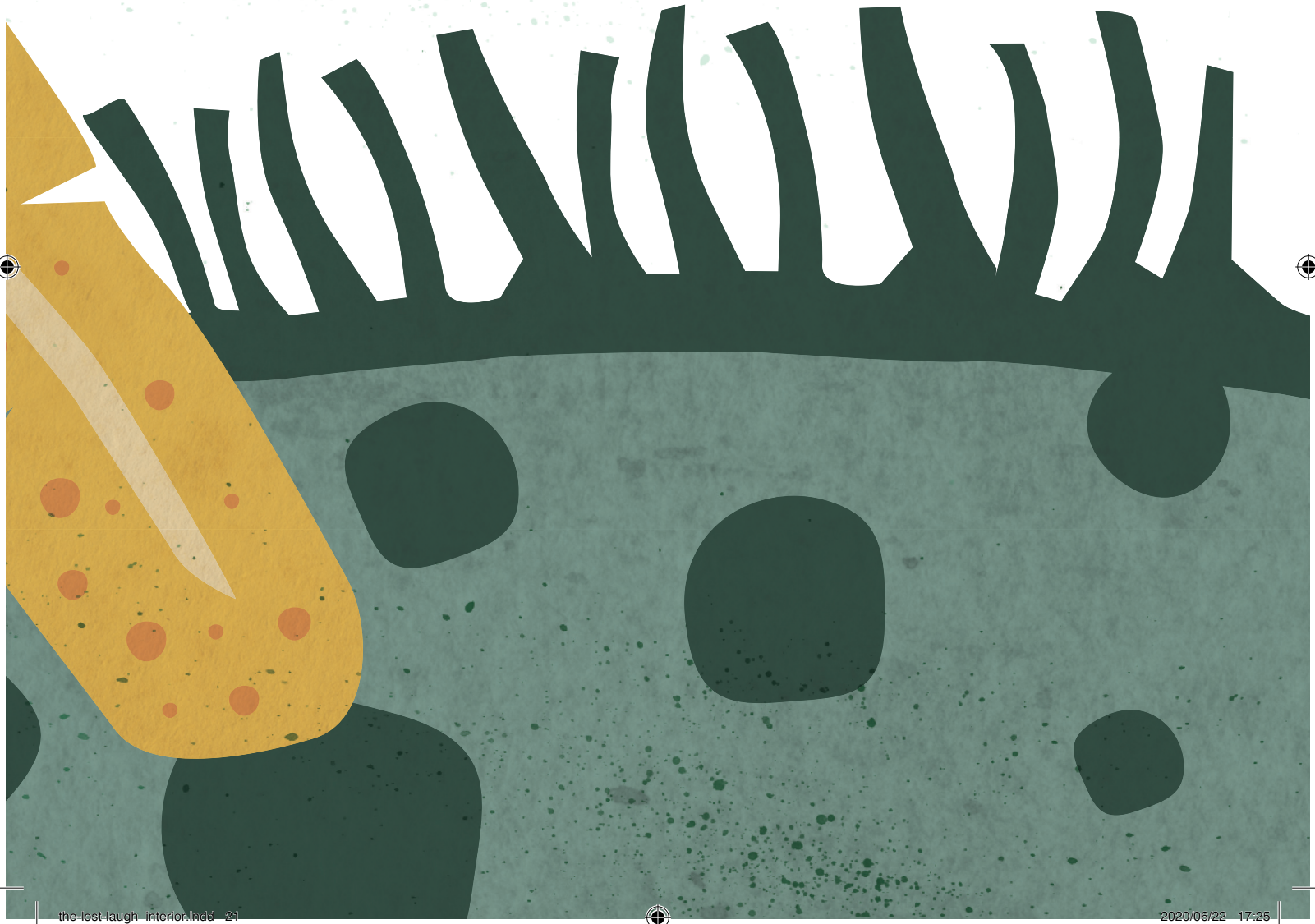
watsho uNkawu

engcileza ukusuka

emthini ukuze
achole usiba.



Waqala wanyumbaza
uMachaphaza kuyo yonke indawo.




HA
HA
HA
HA
HA

Engangxamanga
uMachaphaza waqala
wancuma, waze wayekelela
ukuhleka okukhulu
nokuvakala kakhulu.

Wahleka wahleka
wade wazibhuqabhuqa
emhlabeni.


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Zonke nezinye izilwanyana
zasuka zahleka nazo.

“Ukufumene phi ukuhleka kwakhe?” zabuzana.



“Ukuhleka kwakhe bekusoloko kungaphakathi kuye ngalo lonke ixesha. Ndithe ndakumvuyisa kwaphumela ngaphandle,” wachaza uNkawu.



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Basuka bahleka, bahleka
bonke kwade kwabonakala
amazinyo abo.



“Andisayi kuphinda ndilahlekelwe *kukuhleka kwam kwakhona*,”

watsho uMachaphaza,

ingcuka eyonwabileyo.



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