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# CIKONDI SAUMIRIZA

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# 1. AMUNA ENA NDI ACABE

"KOMATU ponena za abwenzi anu ku Halale sindinganene zabwino, bodza ai. Za inu angocita ngati adaiwala, angoyenda ndi akazi osawerengeka; ndalama zonse kuthera komweko. Monga inu adakutumizirani ndi kanthu komwe cipitire cao cija?"

Wolankhulayo anali munthu wamkulu, wacinyamata; wa zaka makumi awiri ndi zisanu ndi cimodzi. Anali wamtali bwino, woyera, wamaonekedwe okometsera maka cifukwa ca udongo wace wosalekeza. Tsopanoli anali atabvala nsapato zofiira, saizi 9. Anabvalanso buluku la greyi wamtengo, shati yoyera ndi swetala yofiirira.

Anali pampando, ndipo coyang'anana naye pampando winanso kumbali yina ya tebulo, kunali mtsikana wokongola wa zaka khumi ndi zisanu ndi zitatu kapena zinai. Anali mlongo wace wa Gasitoni Zimoto, mnyamata yemwe ndanenayu. Mukadawaonetsetsa mukadazindikira kuti nkhope zao zinali zokongola ndi zolingana. Koma anasiyana pakuti kukongola kwa Verona kunalidi kwacikazi, kopatsa cidwi cosalekeza poonetsetsa nkhope yace; koma kwa Gasitoni kunali kwacimuna kongokondwetsa kupenya.

Verona analidi wokongola, woondera mokondwetsa, timaso tamoyo tokometsera. Anali ndi pakamwa papang'ono, milomo yosacindikira, ndipo thupi ndi maonekedwe ace onse anali abwino kuona. Koma sanali wonyada, kapena wamanyazi kapena wosaseka ndi anthu. Tsiku limeneli linali Lamulungu

ndipo Verona sanali wokondwa pakumva zomwe acimwene ace akanena za bwenzi wace Chale yemwe kale, asanapite ku Halale, analonjeza kuti Verona ndiye mkazi mmodzi yekha wa pamtima wace.

Patapita kanthawi Verona anayankha, "Anandi-tumizira kamodzi basi, paundi ndi ndalama khumi. Kucokera nthawi imeneyo sanatumize kanthu ngakhale kalata yo....."

Sanatsirize mau cifukwa nthawi yomweyo pakhomo panamveka motsatana, "Odi! Odi!" Verona anayankha, "Ea, lowani!" Woodirayo analowa. Anali namwali wa zaka pena khumi ndi zisanu ndi cimodzi kapena ndi ziwiri, wamaonekedwe ofanana ndi Verona. Mucilota kuti anali pacibale mudakakhoza, cifukwa atatu onsewa anali abale a mai ndi bambo mmodzi. Gasitoni anali woyamba, waciwiri anamwalira kale. Verona wacitatu, Valeria wocita odiyu anali wacinai.

Valeria anali ndi kalata m'manja ndipo anaipatsa Verona nati, "Yanu!" Ndipo anakhala pampando wina. Verona analandira. Pamwamba pace pa emvulupi panalembedwa bwino-bwino:

Miss Verona Zimoto,
Nyozo Village,
Chief Liri,
MASASA.

Gasitoni anati, "Kapena njocokera kwa A Chale!"

"Kaya, kapena; imani ndiwerenge!" Verona, ndi mau awa anang'amba emvulupi ndipo mkati mwace anatulutsamo kalata yoyera. Inali yopinda bwino. Ataiwerenga anafoya moyo nangoti, "Siizotu zaululika, imani ndikuwerengereni mudzimvere nokha."



Awiri aja anachera makutu pamene Verona anayamba kuwerenga:

*C/o Mr Taysone,*
*High Road, Clickoff,*
*SALISBURY.*
*16th December*, 19...

*Okondeka A Verona,*

*Ngati muli moyo zikomo. Koma ndisayambe kunena zacabe, ndingoneneratu colinga ca kalatayi. Ndi zoona tinacita cibwenzi, koma ndaganiza kusiya. Sikukunyozerani inuyo, koma ndithu mai, ine ndingoti pepani: yembekezerani mbali zina.*

*Pepani,*
*Ndine,*
*Chale Cisosa.*

Atamaliza kuwerenga, onse anakhala cete kanthawi. Kenaka mosakondwa A Gasitoni analankhula, "Izi ndidaziganiza kale kuti Chale sindiye wokhulupirika. Pobwera kuno ine ndinamulawira poganiza kuti adzandipatsa kapaundi keni-kenika kodzakuninkhirani moni. Ndinadabwa kuti pamene ndinamkumbutsa za inu sanaoneke wokondwa."

Atayang'ana azilongo ace aja anaona kuti anali ndi nkhope zacisoni. Verona anati, "Iai musabvutike, izo tonse tamva; ine ndidzangoyembekezeradi kwina. Komatu ayenera kuti atsimikiziretu mtima kuti ine sadzandifunanso. Ndi....." Koma sanapitirize. Zinali zacisoni. Ukwati wopangana kale kuuthetsa conci! Mumtima mwace munalowa cidani ndi Chale. Koma panalibe kanthu kena koti adakacita, cifukwa ngati mmodzi safuna, nkhani yonse ya cikwati iyenera kutha pompo.

Gasitoni poona cisoni ca alongo ace anafuna kwathuzitsa mtima nati, "Basi zatha, palibe kanthu; amuna ngambiri!" Mtima wa Verona sunathuze kweni-kweni cifukwa pamaganizo ace anaona kuti mbali ya kwaoyo oculuka ndiwo akazi koposa amuna. Pamene zinacitika izi Gasitoni anali atakhala kumudzi mlungu umodzi kucokera ku Salisbury komwe akagwira nchito. Chale akagwira nchito ya ukalaliki komweko. Kumudzi komwe analiku ndiko kwao kobadwira kochedwa kwa A Nyozo, anakwatira kumudzi kwina kwace kochedwa Sinda. Leroli Lamulungu iye anabwera kuno kwa A Nyozo kudzaona abale ndi anansi ace. Ndipo umu ndimo mmene tawapezera ndi tsoka lotereli.

Posacedwa Valeria anatuluka nanka ku khichini kukakonza cakudya. Zinali zokondweretsa kuti m'banja la anthuwa onse akakondana, kumvana ndi kuthandizana pamabvuto.

Abalewa anali m'cipinda cokongola cocezera ca nyumba yaikulu yamdindo, yooneka bwino ndithu. Inali kumatsiriziro a mudzi. Panja, ngakhale kuti inali nthawi yadzinja, dzuwa linali gaaa! pakuti linafika pakati. M'nyumba muja Verona analankhulanso monyinyirika nati, "Mwinanso amunanu mumasimbwa! Pofunsira mbetazo tikomerenji timau!" Gasitoni anabwezera mau nati, "Akazinunso ai, simuli bwino! Pomangitsa cikwati sikukoma kwace, koma podzuka mmawa mungoyamba kulalata." Onsewo anaseka pa zoseketsanazo. Atadya Gasitoni anabwerera kwao.

Anasiya Verona ali ndi maganizo obvutika. "Cibwenzi cabwino cija kutha conci! Suja Chale



pofunsira ankati, 'M'dziko lonse ine ndikondetsa iwe wekha?' Kani amunawa zina angonama?" Nanga tsopano Verona adzayembekezera kuti? Safunanso mwamuna wonyenga ai!

Koma.....ehe! Bwanji mnyamata uja wochedwa Alisoni wocokera kwa A Matiri? Sindiye womuyenera? Koma nanga ngati kumtima kwace Alisoniyo sanali kuganiza za Verona, adzampanga bwenzi wace bwanji poti afunsira ndi wamwamuna osati wamkazi?

## 2. VERONA APEZA BWENZI WINA

M'mudzi uja wa A Matiri ndimo munabadwiramo mnyamatayu dzina lace Alisoni. Anali wamtali, wodera, wamaonekedwe okondwetsa. Sanali wonenepa, pena woonda koma pakati. Anali wamphamvu zodabwitsa cibadwire, koma wamantha kucita ndeu. Osati cifukwa copanda nkhongono, koma poti anangobadwa tero wosakonda ndeu. Komatu atakalipa kweni-kweni, anali munthu woopsa.

Anadza kumudzi pa chuti ca Khrisimisi kucokera komwe akagwira nchito, ndipo anapempha kuti adzakhale nthawi yopitirirapo pang'ono. Anafuna kudzacita zinthu zambiri, monga kuthandiza bambo wace nyumba yatsopano yomwe akamanga. Koma ceni-ceni, anadzera kudzafunsira.

Adzafunsira! Inde, koma yani? Ayenera kufunsira mkazi wokhulupirikatu, cifukwatu kusankhula ndi kukwatira mkazi woipa pena wabwino ndi woyenera, ndiko kugamulitsa moyo wacisoni pena wacimwemwe mtsogolo. Koma mkazi wotere woti adzamvane naye ndani? M'mutu mwace munadza

ganizo la Verona, kamtsikana kokongola kaja ka pamudzi pa A Nyozo.

Koma kodi mkazi ameneyu siwonyada? Monga akamuloladi? Suja anamva kamphekesera kuti anali ndi bwenzi kale? Koma palibe kanthu, akayesabe kumfunsira? Kawiri-kawiri anthu ofunana amapenekerana. Oh! Alisoni sanadziwa kuti mtima wa Verona unali pa iye, ndiponso Verona cimodzimodzi! Mpaka pano sanadziwe, koma tiona.

Mtima wa Alisoni unayamba kuganiza za Verona. Basi, ndithu lero lomwe adzamuona ndi kukamba naye.

Dzuwa linali kumadzulo. Mitambo inalipo koma pang'ono. Alisoni anautenga ulendo wa kwa A Nyozo pansi, poti njinga anali asanagule. Panjira anangoti gululu ndi Gasitoni yemwe akadziwana naye. Gasitoni anatsika panjinga nagwirana naye canza namakambitsana:

"Muli bwanji acimwene?"

"Moyo wamphale; nanga inu bwanji?"

"Umene uno!"

Alisoni anasendera pafupi nagwira mahandulo a a njinga ija nafunsa, "Tsono m'bwakuti?"

"Ulendowu? Ndithu wa ku tauni kukagulira ana zobvala za Khrisimisi. Nanga inu munabwera liti?"

"Dzana! Kudzadya nawo Khrisimisi!"

"Ine ndinabwera mlungu wathawu. Ndidati ndidzaone anthu kumudzi. Nanga si zaka ziwiri cipitire kunchito kuja tsopano?

"Zoonadi, muyenera kubwera nthawi zonse potha pa zaka ziwiri kusonyeza kuti ndinu mwamuna,



eee he! Wo....."

"Cabwino."

Gasitoni atamvetsa zomwe Alisoni anafuna kunena anaonjeza nati, "Tsopano inuyo mulikulowera kuti? Kwathu, pena kwa A Nyozo?"

Alisoni ananyibvula nayankha, "Kungathe kukhala konseko. Koma poyamba ndifuna kufika kwa A Nyozo. Ine sindinangobwerera Khrisimisi yokhayi, ai. Koma monga inu momwe mudziwa, ndiyesa ndakula kokwanira kuti,.....he.....ndiyenera.....; mwamvetsa! Tsono ndimaganiza za kwanu kwa A Nyozo kuti kapena.....

Nkhope ya Gasitoni inawala ndi cimwemwe, nati m'maganizo ace, "Tsopano kapena Verona adzapeza mwamuna." Koma izo zinali zao awiri. Iye anangokhulupirira kuti atafunsira, Verona adzamulola Alisoni, cifukwa popatula kukongola, Alisoni analinso wamakhalidwe abwino koposa Chale. Conco Gasitoni moonetsa kuti anamvetsa anayankha nati, "Aaah! Kayesereni. Ndikhulupirira kuti mudzapeza mwai."

"Koma kodi simunamve kuti ali naye bwenzi kale? Ndikunena A Verona!"

"Izo musabvutike nazo, cifukwa dzulo, Verona analandira kalata kwa Chale, bwenzi wace wakaleyo, yocithetsa cibwenzico."

"Musatero!" - you don't say

"Zoonadi!"

Alisoni anali cete pakanthawi, kenaka anati, "Conco inu mukuyembekeza kubwerera kunchito liti?"

"Mmm, maka mpaka Khrisimisi itatha. Ndi banja lonse tsopano."

"Ai, izo ndiye zokondweretsa. Tsonotu ndingakucedwetseni paulendo wanuwu."

"Ai, koma ine ndingacedwetse inuyo. Pitani bwino, ndipo mukhale ndi mwai!"

Ndi mau awa Gasitoni anakwera njinga nauyatsanso ulendo wace. Alisoni anamuyanga'nitsitsa mpaka atatsenjera ndipo nayenso anapitirira paulendo wace uja. Mau a Gasitoni anampatsa cikhulupiriro, conco anali ndi mtima pamwamba tsopano.

Posacedwa anafika kunyumba ya abambo ace a Verona. Anaima pakhomo pakanthawi osacita kanthu. Mkati munamveka kaphokoso koika mipando bwino. Kenaka anati, "Odi! Mtima wa Alisoni unagunda ndipo anamva mau akuti, "Eee! Lowani." Anatsegula citseko cija comwe cinayang'ana kumpoto nalowa. Cinali cipinda concija cocezera. Ndipo munalidi Verona!

Verona anadabwa mwacimwemwe poona Alisoni. Iye analikukonza mipando atasesa-sesa bwino pamene Alisoni anafika. Zoonadi anacita ngati kulota kuti lero kubwera alendo. Anali atabvala diresi lamanga-manga ndi nsapato zofiira. Monga mwa khalidwe lace, anali atasamba bwino. Anamwetulira Alisoni nati, "Khalani pampandopa!" Ndipo Alisoni anakhala pampando womwe Verona anamlozera. Unali wopanda pfumbi, wosansidwa bwino kale.

Ataika tebulo ndi mipando ina ija m'malo mwace, Verona anatuluka panja. Anatseka citseko kopanda phokoso. Panja anaitanitsa Valeria yemwe anali kusinja nsinjiro zamtedza. Posacedwa anafika atadendekera mbale momwe munali nsinjirozo. Anakumana ndi Verona ku khichini. Pompo Verona anayamba kulankhula, pafupi monong'ona, "Kwabweratu alendo!" Valeria anafunsa mokweza mau, "Ndani?" Mofulumira, Verona anati, "Sisss! Osakweza mau.....Alisoni!" Apo Valeria anaoneka wodabwanso mwacimwemwe. Analota zomwe anabwerera. Conco tsopano anayankha monong'ona, "Bodza?" "Ndithu! Tere kaoneni, ali mocezeramu!"

Valeria ananong'ona alikudziyang'ana, "Ndiri bii kudaku! Imani ndikasinthe deresi lino ndikabvalenso nsapato!" Nyumba ya atate ace a Verona inali yaikulu, ya zipinda zisanu ndi zitseko zitatu zakubwalo. Mkati munali zinanso zokumaniza zipindazo. Valeria analowera kokasintha zobvalako khomo lina.

Mocezera muja Alisoni ali yekha anayamba kuona-ona mozungulira. Kanali kacipinda kabwino, koyeneradi kucezeramo. Kuyang'ana kummawa ku cipupa ca kumanzere kunali khomo pafupi ndi ngodya yolowera m'zipinda zina zija. Kucokera ku denga mpaka pansi, cipupa conse cinapakidwa ndi cituwa. Ndipo mkono umodzi mpaka pansi ndithu, dothi lakuda.

Ali m'maganizo a zimenezi anangomva timau tina tokongola panja, "Zikomo."

"Eee, lowani."

Yemwe anacita odiyo anali Valeria. Atalowa, Alisoni anamuyang'anitsitsa. Anaona kuti anali wolingana m'maonekedwe ndi Verona, kungoti anali wocepera ndi wodera pang'ono. Anabvala zobvala

zokongola kwabasi. Anadza pafupi nagwada napereka dzanja nati, "Monii!"

Alisoni anayankha nati, "Zikomo. Muli bwanji?"

"Tiri moyo kaya inuyo?"

"Inenso ndiri moyo?"

Valeria sanakhalitse, anafulumira kunka ku khichini komwe anakalindira Verona kuphika nsima. Conco popeza mpata, Verona anaganiza zokapatsa moni Alisoni, cifukwatu paja anali asanampatsebe. Anasiya Valeria m'khichini nalowa m'cipinda muja munali Alisoni. Mtima wace unagunda poona Verona.

Verona anadza pafupi nagwadanso. Anagwirana canza ndi Alisoni nati, "Moni," namwetula mwamanyazi. Maso ao anakumana. Alisoni anazindikira kuti Verona anali ndi timaso tabwino, toyera. Alisoni anayankha nati, "Zikomo kwambiri." Anayang'ananso m'maso mwa Verona. Anamva cikondi cacikulu. Sanafune kusiya kugwira dzanja lace. Koma potsiriza analisiya. Apo Verona anaimirira nakhala pampando wina. Ndipo anayamba kulankhulana.

Alisoni anafunsa, "Bambo ndi mai ndiye ali kuti?" Verona anayankha ndi timanyazi ndiponso momwetula, "Kumunda. Ifenso timati tiwatsatire, koma tidakalakwa."

Alisoni anaseka nati, "Koodi! Nanga za cigayo bwanji? Ndinamva kuti anagula cina, tsopano zakwana ziwiri."

A Dambo, abambo ace a Verona, anali munthu wolemera kwambiri, koma wodziwa kugwiritsa nchito ndalama. Anali ndi zaka makumi anai ndi zisanu



ndi zinai; munthu waudongo, wosamana pa ndalama zaozo. M'banja mwao analikudya zabwino ndipo ana ao maka Verona ndi Valeria sanabvutike za ndalama ngakhale akakonda kugula zakudya zonga bredi, tii, mpunga ndi zina zotere.

Anakambirana zina zambiri koma posacedwa Valeria anayamba kubweretsa zakudya. Kunali nsima ya nyama yophikidwa bwino kwambiri poti Verona ndi mlongo wace anapita ku sukulu. Kunalinso mpunga, tii, bredi, citini ca jam, mkaka ndi mbatata zacizungu; zonsezo zoti adye Alisoni. Iye anangodya pang'ono ndipo potsiriza anathokoza. Cikhulupiriro cace cinakula. Ngati anamulandira bwino conci, sindiye kuti nanga anakondwera kuti anabwera? Tsono kapena kudzakhala mwai.

Iye poyamba anangoganiza zoti acite ngati adziwane kweni-kweni asananene kanthu. Zoonadi, akali ana anakumana ku sukulu, koma ilo nkale. Koma tsopano poona mmene zinthu zinayendera anangoganiza kuti, ii! Pafupi mpomwe wafika. Mwai ndi lero lomwe.

Conco pamene Valeria anawasiya okha napita ku khichini kukatsuka mbale, iye Alisoni atadya, ataona mpata wabwino, anangosendera pafupi ndi Verona ndipo mopanda mantha anangoti, "Zikomo, komatu ndimakukondani!"

Nkhope ya Verona inayaka [redacted]remwe. Anayang'anitsitsa Alisoni m'maso koyamba, atatero anazyolika, koma kaciwiri analimba napenyetsanadi ndi Alisoni. Anamva kubvundula kwa cikondi colungama mumtima mwace. Anafika pafupi naye nayankha monong'oneza nati, "Inenso ndimakukondani!"

Ndipo anangoyang'anitsana ndi kugwirana m'manja panthawi ndithu! Atacezetsana anabwerera kumudzi kwao.

Posacedwa mbiri inamveka kuti Chale atacithetsa cibwenzi ndi Verona, Alisoni analowa m'malo mwace ndipo cibwenzi cace tsopano cinali camoto koposa kale mmene Verona anali bwenzi wa Chale. Zedi, mtima wa Alisoni unali pamwamba.

## 3. CHALE APUTA MABVUTO

*Anthu ena ngamwai cibadwire. Ena augwiritsa bwino mwai waowu, ndipo alemera. Koma enanso mwa iwo sadziwa kutero. Angoyesa dziko lonse lao, nacita ciriconse. Koma mwai waowo suwapitira kutali. Posacedwa angoona zinthu de! zaduka. Pompo ayamba kucita dumbo ndi anzao.*

Tsopano kuno ndi ku Halale, komboni ija m'mene mukhalamo anthu akuda ogwira nchito mumzinda wa Salisbury.

Dzuwa lalowa. Kumapeto a komboniyi kummawa, panyumba yomangidwa bwino yanjerwa, panali anthu awiri pakhomo mwamuna ndi mkazi. Mwamunayo anaoneka wamphamvu potinso anali mnyamata. Anali woyera thupi, nkhope yamaonekedwe abwino koma yocita ngati kusonyeza kuti mwini wace anali woipa mkati. Analinso ndi makutu okangalala pang'ono. Anabvala buluku lakuda, shati yoyera ndi jekete, ndi nsapato zofiira. Pathumba la jeketelo mudakaonapo nkhathi za mowa, poti ngakhale tsopano lino anali atangoukhuta. Pakhomo ponse paja panali guu! kununkha mowa.



Pambali pace panali munthu wamai wosapitirira zaka 27. Anali wonenepa, ndipo tsopanoli anali atabvala cisiketi congoti vwandanga! Nthawi inoyi tawapeza, mwamunayu atagwira siketi ya mkaziyo. Mkazi anayesa kulimba-limba, ndipo ndi dzimphamvu dzacimuna anamkankhira mnyamatayo uko, ndipo anakuwa, "Ndikuti sindikufuna, galu! Coka pakhomo panga pano!" Koma mwamuna uja, cimodzi-modzi monga amuna ena ambiri sanasamale konse mau awa.

Mkazi uja atathuza mtima ananenanso,"Inu A Ganizani! Amuna anga akupezererani. Ine ndingokucenjezani kuti dzinkani."

Ganizaniyo anayankha, "Koma ine ndifuna iwe! Ndipo sindisamala za wina! Ndi....." Ohhlorroh! .....Pamenepo anageya konyansa ngati asanze. Masanzi anacita kubwererera pakhosi. Tsopano Ganizani anayamba kusetekera masanziwo nameza.

Poona ubve wotere, mkazi uja anati mokweza mau, "U! U! Kunyansa ati! Coka pakhomo panga." Analeka ndi kulemekeza komwe, "Coka, pita; onani ati cinkhumba ubve wace! U! Ndiye wofuna ine ameneyo! Cokere pakhomo panga pano! Pitani! Pita! Pitaaa!"

Koma Ganizani anangoyankha, "Ndifuna iwe!" Ndipo alikudzandira anadza pafupi nagwiranso siketi ija. Mkazi anayesa kulimbalimbanso koma tsopano analephera kupulumuka. Conco anangokuwa, "Ooo!"

Nthawi yomweyo mwamuna wa mkaziyo anatulukira kucokera koyenda. Anangofika pamene Ganizani analikuyesa kumgwetsa mkaziyo. Paka-

nthawi anangokhala cete ataledzera ndi ukali. Kenaka ananena mokuwa, "Ndithu! Lero ndakupeza ulikunyenga mkazi wanga-aaa! Ha! Kani mfiti ija ndiwe! Uona!"

Ganizani anangoima. Pompo mwini mkazi uja anatulutsa mpeni, anamlumphira Ganizani uja; tsopano anali atataya mkaziyo. Limodzi ndi mwamuna uja anagwera pansi. Ganizani analibe mphamvu zocitira kanthu cifukwa anakhutitsa mowa. Conco, ngakhale anayesa kulimba-limba zinali zacabe.

Mumdimamo anaona cinthu coyera m'manja mwa mwamuna uja. Kenaka anamva ululu wozula moyo pafupi ndi mtima. Anayesa kulimba-limba, koma anaona nyenyezi ndipo kenaka sanadziwenso, kunamdera. Pamene Ganizani anatsitsimuka panali pakati pa usiku. Poyamba sanazindikire komwe anali. Sanathe kuganiza bwino; anafooka.

Koma poti mowa uja unayamba kutha anakumbukira zomwe zinamcitikira. Pomwepo kuwawa kwa pacilonda anamubaya paja kunayambanso. Anadziyang'ana-yang'ana, koma potero anapatsutsula pabalapo. Ndipo anabuula. Panatuluka magazi, ndipo sikuwawa kwace. Anapatsonyeza thonje, m'nyumba m'mene anali munali kuyaka nyale. Kanali kacipinda kabwino kakang'ono. Anamgoneka pabedi, ndipo anampfunda mabulangete abwino awiri. Anadabwa kuti ali m'nyumba ya ani?

Atatha kubuula kuja nthawi yomweyo kunatulukira munthu wamwamuna kucitseko comwe cinayang'ana kumadzulo kulowera m'cipinda cina. Munthuyo anabwera ndi cikho ca madzi, ndipo atafika pafupi ndi kuweramira Ganizani, anati, "A Chale, muli bwanji?"



Ganizani, yemwe timuchula Chale tsopano anafunadi kumwa madzi, anati alandire cikho cija koma analephera. Anayankha mobvutikira nati, "Ndiri bwino pang'ono. Koma citani condimwetsa madziwo." Munthu uja anamwetsadi Chale madziwo. Ndipo anamzindikira. Anali bwenzi wace Damalirani.

Damalirani anali kucokera ku tauni kunka ku komboni ya Halale. Anapeza Chale ali gone panjira cikomokere. Anamuunika ndi toci napeza kuti anamubaya pafupi ndi mtima. Iye ndi munthu wina wace yemwe akayenda naye anathandizana kunyamula Chale ndi kudzamgoneka ku nyumba kwao. Kuno ndiko kumene tawapezaku.

Nthawi yaikulu inapitá Chale asanagone cifukwa anamva kuwawa, koma potsiriza anagona. Usiku womwewo ananka naye ku cipatala cacikulu.

Tsono unali mwezi wa December. Chale atakhala m'cipatala milungu isanu ndi masiku atatu anatulukira kumalo komwe akagwira nchito kukaonana ndi bwana Guys kuti akamuuze cifukwa cosabwerera kunchito nthawi yonseyi. Bwana Guys anali woyang'anira anchito akuda ku kampani imeneyo.

Pofika pakhomo pa ofesi yace mtima wa Chale unagunda. "Kodi Bwana Guys adzati nane ciani?" Anadzifunsa yekha nati, "Koma ai, limba mtima, kulibe zoopsa." Atagogoda pacitseko anayankha mkatimo m'Cizungu, "Lowani!"

Chale analowa natseka citseko. Bwana Guys analikulemba patebulo. Sanali munthu woondetsa kapena wonenepetsa, osati wamfupi, komanso wosatalikitsa. Anali wokonda kuzaza koma wolipira

bwino. Anakweza mutu naoneka wodabwa, kenaka anakalipa ataona Chale. "Tsopano tambwali uja wabwera!" Chale sanayankhe kanthu.

"Kodi mwezi wonsewu munali kuti?"

"Ku cipatala!"

Atagwedeza mutu anati, "Mhhuu! Nanga bwanji osatumiza mau kuno?"

"Ndinatumiza munthu ku....."

"Kupanda nzeru."

Anamdula mau napitiriza, "Simudziwa kuti anthu amuno ngosakhulupirika? Munayenera kulemba pena kulembetsa kalata kuno. Koma muonetsa kuti simulabadira nchito yanu, zonsezo simunacite. Munapita ku cipatalako kaamba ka ciani?"

"A....., eee.....ndinacita ngozi pa....."

"Citsiru! Zonsezo ndadziwa kale. Ndi cifukwa ca akazi ndi mowa. Ndidziwa moyo wa anthu akuno ine. Simunacite ngozi, koma munacita kuitana ngozi. Maka-maka munali kuyenda ndi akazi a eni ace mutakhuta mowa ndipo eni akaziwo anakupwetekani. Inu munalakwa zinthu zambiri. Tsopano kupatula mwezi uwu mwakhala kucipatala osabwera kunchito, masiku anu osaonekera kunchito akwana atatu. Conco pa izi, ngakhale ndinayesa kukusungani, ndiyesa mwamkitsa. Conco ndiganiza kuti ndiyenera kucita zomwe eni nchito ena adakacita kale."

Mtima wa Chale unagunda, ndipo anati mumtima mwace, "Tsopano kubwera zoopsa.",

"Tsono poti nthawi yonse munali ku cipatalayi munthu wina yemwe anatenga malo anu, pomuona kuti alikugwira nchito bwino sitingamleketse.



Motero, inu lero kamangeni katundu, nchito yanu kuno yatha. Ine sindifuna kukuonani patapita maora atatu. Tsono poti sitinakuuzeni kale kuti nchito yanu itha, £6 siizi; zikuthandizeni musanapeze nchito kwina, kaya popita kumudzi. Ngati mudzafuna makalata a nchito, ofotokoza za kagwiridwe ka nchito yanu, ndidzatumiza. Koma ndidzalembapo zoona."

Nkosatheka kulemba mmene Chale anamvera pa zimenezi. Ndiye ngati anamubaya ndi mkondo. Nkhope yace inada. Anataya mtima nakalipa. Ananga wokhuta mowa. Molapa analandira £6 zija. Ndipo opanda mau ena anatuluka ngati citsiru.

Chale anali mmodzi mwa anthu aja amene sasamala za mtsogolo malingana ngati sapeza tsoka koma ayamba kulapa ndi kulira tsokalo litacitika. Inde, iye anayamba kukumbukira za moyo wace kuno ku Salisbury tsopano; analapa.

Zoonadi, iye atakhoza sitandadi 8 anabwera kuno ku Salisbury kucokera kumudzi kwao. Sanacedwe kupeza nchito ya uthandizi wa ukalaliki. Koma masiku oyamba omwewo, ataonetsa kuti angathe kugwira nchito bwino anakwezedwa kukhala mmodzi mwa akalaliki aakulu. Ndipo anaphunziranso kulemba pa tepiletala. Conco nchito inayenda bwino poyamba.

Koma ngakhale kunali ndalama, kunalinso akazi ndi mowa. Ndipo zinthu zacabezi zinamkoka mtima Chale, ndipo zinamgwetsadi m'mbuna, anaipa.

Tsiku lija analondola mkazi wa mwini yemwe anadziwana naye. Cifukwa ca mowa anayamba

kufuna kucita za ucitsiru. Koma anabaidwa. Pang'ono adakafa. Atacira anangofikira kudzacotsedwa nchito. Kutha kwa mwaitu uku. Pamene anali kucita zoipa anauza anthu kuti dzina lace anali Ganizani. Zoonadi, tsopano ayenera kuganiza zolowa nchito kwina, kapena kubwerera kumudzi.

Koma zolowa nchito kwina sizinaoneke ngati zotheka. Iye anati ngati ziri tero akafuna nchito yabwino, ya ukalaliki yomwe. Koma kodi adzamlola ndani poti kosapeneka konse kalata yace yofunira nchito inaipa.

Sangalowe nchito ya ulebala. Munthu wa sitandadi 8, ai. Conco kunangotsaladi cinthu cimodzi, kupita kumudzi, kusiya ndalama ndi nchito yabwino. Palibe kanthu, malo ano onse anamuipira. Anamunyansa. Anafuna kucokako mwamsanga, monga mmene angathere.

Inde, kumudzi; koma akanenako ciani? Akafikira kwa makolo, zoonadi, poti anali asanakwatire. Koma anaganiza bwenzitu, ndiye anali nalo. Ngakhale caka catha iye analemba kalata yothetsa cibwenzico, kweni-kweni anangofuna kumuyesa ngati ndi wokhulupirika. Iye Chale poona kuti bwenzi lacelo silinayankhe anaganiza kuti ici cinatanthauza kuti cifukwa ca cikondi, naye anakhala ndi cisoni pomva zimenezi kotero kuti anangokhala akulira kudikira wokondeka wace abwerenso, adzapepese ngati analakwa kanthu.

Koma ngati anayamba cibwenzi ndi mnyamata wina, ameneyo wapserera pofika iye kumudzi.



Izi ndizo zomwe Chale anaganiza alikulongedza akatundu ace onse. Tsiku laciwiri lace, atalawira azibwenzi ace ananyamuka ulendo wa kumudzi.

## 4. CHALE NDI ALISONI ALIMBIRANA VERONA

*Ndipo ayamba kucita dumbo ndi ena.*
*Nacita zotheka*
*Kuti nawonso*
*Agwe m'mbunamo!*

M'kanyumba kakang'ono kokhala pakokha kumapeto kweni-kweni kwa mudzi wochedwa Cimgolonga munali mnyamata uja, Chale. Anafika kumudzi pa December 11, tsiku Lamulungu, koma lero panali pa 14, anakhalako kale masiku atatu.

Mbiri sinacedwe kuti Chale anafika. Alisoni naye, anadza kumudzi pa Lolemba pa 12, anamvanso zimenezi. Conco anada nkhawa pang'ono cifukwa anaganiza kuti kudzakhala ciani nanga ngati adzafuna kuyambitsanso cibwenzi ndi Verona? Komabetu ai, zimenezo sizidzatheka poti akulu-akulu anabvomereza kale za ubwenzi wao, ndipo kweni-kweni cobwerera kuno Alisoni anafuna kuyamba kumanga nyumba yace. Ukwati adzamanga bwino.

Komano tiyeni tibwerere kwa Abwana Chale, tione zomwe anali kuganiza madzulo a tsiku Lacitatu limeneli.

Mudakamuona nthawi imeneyi mudakangodziwiratu kuti anali kubvutika mumtima, osati kubvutika kokha, koma ndi kukalipa komwe.

Anali pampando, manja pamasaya, zigongono pabondo la mwendo wamanzere womwe anaupacika pamwendo wamanja. Anacita tsinya, kusonyeza kuti anali kuganiza mwaukali.

Zoonadi, iye atafika anadikira mpaka lero ndipo anapita kukapepesa kwa Verona kuti ayambenso cibwenzi cija cakale, comwe anangocita ngati kucithetsa, kuti amuyese cabe. Koma zomwe anayankha, ho! Sindizo!

Atafika kwa A Dambo panalibe womulandira bwino. Valeria sanadzibvute nkumpatsa moni yemwe. Atamupepesa Verona ndi kumfunsiranso anati, "Pepani, kumbukirani zomwe mudalemba, ine ndidayang'anira mbali zina!"

A Dambo ndi akazi ao anacoka ngakhale iye adatumiza mthenga kuti adzabwera nthawi yakuti-yakuti.

Zoonadi, mkazi anamutaya conse. Koma kweni-kweni sicifukwa cakupusa kwace, koma cifukwa ca Alisoni, monga anamvera, ndiye bwenzi lace la Verona tsopano.

Basi, ameneyu ndiye anadzetsa tsoka lace latsopanoli. Maka-maka iye Chale anaganiza kuti Alisoni analemba kalata kwa Verona yomfunsa cibwenzi, ndipo analembamo zambiri zodzikometsa, namunenera za misece kuti iye aoneke woipa pamaso pa Verona. Conco nzosacita kufunsa, Alisoni ndiye anadzetsa matsoka ace. Ndipo tsono basi, ayenera kumlanga mnyamata ameneyu. Analankhula yekha nati, "Lero! Aona ndithu ameneyu, lero lomwe. Ine sindisamala za wina koma ine ndekha. Kundilanda mkazi ine! Ha! Watsoka ndithu ameneyu!



Kani kunja kuno alipo anthu ena opanda nane mantha? Ha! Ndithu! Ine mwana wamwini sanganditero. Tiona lero!"

Zoonadi, Alisoni anali wamphamvu. Koma kodi adzatani poti Chale nayenso anali wadzimphamvu, ndipo anali wamkulu zaka koposa Alisoni? Monga adzaziona mphamvu zoti adzalimbane naco cikali cacikali tereci?

Dzuwa linalowa, cisisira cinayamba kudza. Anthu anasonkhana m'zinyumba zao kucokera kuzinchito. Chale ananyamuka, natuluka, natseka citseko ba! panja; nadzilankhuliranso yekha, "Ndithu, ndidziwa kuti Alisoniyo wapita kukaceza kwa kabwenzi kaceko. Ndipotu koma lero ndimkumana."

Ndi mau awa Chale anayamba kuyenda ndawala kudzera njira yocokera kumudziko yomwe inacita mphambano ndi njira ina yocokera kwa A Matiri kunka kwa A Nyozo. Anayenda, nayendabe, nafika pamphambanopo; naima pamalo pena pobisika. Anakhala pansi. "Andipeza. Tiona ndithu lero!"

Kumwamba kunayamba kusonkhana mitambo yakuda, ndipo kamphepo kozizira moluma kanaomba; kunalinso ziphaliwali, kotero kuti Chale anaganiza kuti kudzagwa mvula. Timbalame ndi tizirombo tinali kulira ndi kuyimba. Mphezi, mbalame, tizirombo ndi kakhalidwe kamadzulowo, zonsezo pamodzi zinacita ngati kupempha Chale aleke za ciwembu caceco. Koma si Chale munthu wace.

Komatu Chaleyo sanadikira nthawi yaikulu cifukwa posacedwa Alisoni anatulukira, ali phee akupalasa njinga. Nyimbo yacikondwerero iri pakamwa.

Atayandikira pafupi ndithu, Chale anaimirira, nadza pambali panjira kucokera pomwe anamubisalira, naima. Alisoni osaganiza za cithu cina ciriconse kupatula bwenzi lace Verona, akuti azidutsa malowo, njinga yace inagwidwa pa kaliyala, namva liu losasa ndi ukali kuti, "Ima iwe!"

Pang'ono-ng'ono akadagwa. Alicidabwire conci anatembenuka nadzifunsa, "Ndani angacite zotero?" Ataona kuti ndi Chale anati mumtima mwace, "Ha! Koma lero! Cifukwa ciani kundibisalira panjira?" Mwamsanga analota cifukwa cace. "Tsono .....ii!.....Ha! Kudzakhala zotani lero?"

Komatu ai, naye Alisoni anali mphongo, conco anadzilimbitsa mtima nakonzekera zakukomana naye ngati mwamuna.

Posowa cina coti adakanena, Alisoni anafunsa mwaulemu, "Kodi sindinu acimwene A Chale? Nanga mwataninso kuti mutere? Kuli ciani?"

Chale anayankha ndi ukali, "Mcimwene wako ine? Ukucokera kuti?"

Alisoni anafunsanso moseka, "Ko' mwakalipa nane ciani?"

"Sindikuseka, ndikuti unali kuti? Osandiyankha zacabe zopusa zina! Unali kuti?"

Alisoni anadziwa kuti munthuyu anakalipa, ndipo ngati afuna kupewa ndeu, anayenera kukamba mwabwino ndi mocenjera. Kuti atero tsono anayenera kudziletsa kukalipa msanga. "Cifukwa ciani kundifunsa conci? Sindinakulakwireni kanthu. Koma cabwino.....funso lanu ndiyankha. Ndiri kucokera kwa bwenzi la!"



Chale anakuwa modula mau, "Bwenzi lako? Osati la ine? Sudacita kun'landa?"

"Pepani.....koma ko' suja akuti?"

"Osamakoma pano! Iwe basi udacita kundilanda mkazi wanga! Udandinenera misece kuti andiyese ine woipa! Iwe! Ine kunditero? Ha! Uona ndithu!" Ndipo nthawi yomweyo kunamveka kuti pha! Pama loopsa Chale analitsira nalo Alisoni! "Ndiyesa uphunzira lero kulanda akazi a eni a.....!"

Koma nayenso sanatsirize kunena mauwo. Alisoni ataombedwa pama lija, magazi ace anatentha, thupi lace linanjenjemera ndi ukali wabasi. Ndipo nthawi yomweyo anaponyera faiti pakamwa pomwe panalankhula zopsetsa mtimapo, ndipo mphamvu zace zinali zotero kuti Chale analibe mphamvu zodzilimbitsa, ndipo anagwa; anagwera pansi cagada alikudzuma ndi ukali ndi kuwawa.

Chale ataona kuti anacitidwa cipongwe cotere anadzazidwadi ndi ukali. Msanga-msanga anauka, nakunga faiti nakhaliratu cire kuyang'ana Alisoni. Onse anayang'anana, yense anali wokonzeka kucita ndeu; yamoyo pena imfa. Anali ngati monga momwe kambuku ndi mkango zitakhala mlungu umodzi osadya kanthu konse, zimenyanirana nyama yomwe zathandizana kupha. Conconso Chale ndi Alisoni anacita ndeu yao yoopsa, ya zotsatira zoopsa cifukwa ca Verona.

Pakamphindi, minyewa yace ya Chale inauma ndi kucita khunyu, ukali wace nthawi imeneyo pepani! Kenaka anamasuka naibwezera faiti ija, ndipo inalo-

ndola pamphuno pa Alisoni. Sindidziwa kudakakhala zotani faiti imeneyi icimumenyadi, pena mphuno yace ikadakhadzuka, dzimphamvu dzace sidzitero! Koma nthawi yomweyo Alisoni anaizemba. Anaponya inanso yace, nimugwa Chale padiso nadzuma nayo. Anaibwezera koma Alisoni anailewa. Anaponyanso yina, Alisoni anachathuka, nigwa m'dera. Koma Alisoni anaponyanso faiti ina nimenya Chale panganga; anagwanso cagada, koma kale-kale, waimiriranso.

Komatu tsopano Chale anapenga ndi ukali. Iye poyamba paja anayesa kuti kadzakhala kanchito kapafupi kumenya Alisoni. Koma tsopano anaona kuti ai, siziri conco.

Chale anaponyanso faiti yapatsaya pa Alisoni. Naye anadzuma nayo, koma ndi kufulumira kodabwitsa anaibwezeranso. Iyo! Ndi! Pakamwa pa Chale! Dzino limodzi linaguluka, koma lina linafamfanthikira mkati. Pompo magazi m'kamwa anayamba kudza, anawalabvulira pa malaya a Alisoni pamodzi ndi malobvu.

Poona conco, Chale anapenga kweni-kweni tsopano ndi ukali. Anangolumphira mdani waceyo atadzipinda kotero kuti mutu, mafaiti ndi maondo zinakumana pakati, ati kutengera kumenya kwa anthu a ku Joni.

Alisoni sanaziyembekezere zimenezi. Ngakhale anali munthu wodziwa kuchathuka kwa ndithu, pano anangolephera.

Alikumulumphira, Alisoni anawerama nayesa ku serera mofulumira kutsogolo kuti Chale adzagwere m'dera! Koma analakwa kutero cifukwa Chale



anangofikira kumugwera pamsana, pafupi ndi ciuno. Anagwetsana pansi pamodzi.

Ndipo tsopano kunayambika kugudubuzana ndi kukanyana pakhosi, kubvimbvinizana uku ndi uko. Anagwirana, nakanyana nkhwiko; anazikana zikhadabo m'thupi. Anali palapatu-palapatu kuponya miyendo kulikonse. Chale anayesa kumkanikizira nthiti pansi Alisoni pomugwira pamtima. Anafuna kumkwera pamimba kuti akhoze kumkong'ontheratu. Koma akati atero, nthawi yomweyo Alisoni anamkankha ndithu dzolimba, kumkankhira kudera. Conco, poona kuti alephera, Chale anaona kuti ngati ayenera kumulangadi mdani wace, basi ayenera kuyamba kuimirira iye, akhoze kumumbwandira bwino ngati mbewa. Alisoni ndiyesa anadziwa colinga cace cifukwa naye anayesa kuti ayambe kudzukirira.

Koma ai, kale-kale Chale wadzuka. Komabetu ai, sanamulumphire Alisoni, ngakhale naye anali asanadzuke cifukwa Chale anakhumudwa ku citsa nagwa pansi. Koma posacedwa, kale-kale anadzukirira; nayenso Alisoni anali atadzuka kale!

Tsopano anayang'anitsitsana, mafaiti atakungiratu cire, maso ao onse ali psu! kufiira; alikupuma mpweya wotentha ngati njobvu. Mucikhala pafupi ndiyesa bwenzi mukumva kuti gu! gu! gu! gu! mitima yao imeneyo kuguguda. Pamenepo Alisoni anayamba kutopa kwambiri koma ai, analimbikira. Conco ganizo linabwera m'mutu mwace, basi: ayenera kumutopetsa ndipo osapeneka konse, potsiriza adzapambana.

Chale anakumbukiranso kuti mpaka pano sanacite kanthu keni-keni. Conco anangoyamba kuponya zace zamphamvu ciponye-ponye, koma kweni-kweni sizinamugwe Alisoni. Zina zinagwa m'dera pamene anachathuka, ndipo zina anazilewa. Zinthu zinatero pakanthawi ndithu. Koma tsopano Chale anaonetsa zizindikiro za kufooka. Ha! Tsopano nthawi ya Alisoni inafika.

Alisoni anamugwira pakhosi ndi dzanja lamanzere, namuzunguza, namuzunguzabe uku ndi uko, ndipo tsopano ndi mphamvu zace zonse zotsala, anamutsira nkhonya dzolimba kotero kuti anagwa nayo pansi, nadzuma ndi kuwawa. Alisoni anathamangirako, angaimirirenso. Koma sanaime. Pamene ankam'mbwandira ngati mbewa, Chale sanatakatake pena kuyesa kudzukanso ai!

"Iai, ndaleka! pepani! Conde, musandimenyenso!"

Chale, ali cigwere pansi paja, ananena mauwo ndi cisoni ca ukali wamanyazi. Koma Alisoni sanasamale mau amenewo, anangommenyabe, kenaka anamuleka.

Tsopano kunja kunada mdima bii! Kamvula kosanganiza ndi mphepo kanayamba, bingu linagunda. Posacedwa Alisoni anadziwa kuti mkuntho woopsa udzayamba; mvula yaikulu idzagwa. Nayenso Alisoni analema, anangotenga njinga yace nati, "Tsala bwino tidzakumananso!" Kenaka anauyatsa ulendo wa kwao, namsiya Chale pamalo pomwepo ali wolefuka kwambiri.



Chale, atatsala yekha anayesa kunyamuka. Poyamba zinamukanika, kaciwiri anakhoza. Anadziwa kuti anafooka kwambiri, ndipo kuti anapwetekedwa kwambiri. Komabe anayamba kuyenda, kulowera kwao, akunka nagunda zitsa ndi mitengo kaamba ka cimdima ndipo penanso cifukwa maso ace anabvulala sanali kupenya bwino. Nthawi imeneyo nkuti mvula iri pwata! pwata! Pamene ankafika pa kanyumba kace nkuti ali khathikhathi ndi mvula. Analowamo, natseka citseko, nangofikira pabedi kugona, sikutopa ndi kufooka kwace ai! Koma sanagone msanga cifukwa tsopano pa kuwawa kuja anaphatikizapo ndi maganizo aukali wamanyazi.

Zoonadi, iye anakhulupiriradi kuti adzakamenya kamnyamata kanzaceko. Koma ai, tsopano zinthu zinangocitikira mwina mwace.

Anabvutika mumtima poganiza kuti mbiri yace yonse posacedwa idzaipa kwambiri. Posacedwa anthu adzati, "Ehee! Nanga mwamva, akuti Chale uja anamenyedwa ndi Alisoni!"

Mumtima mwace munabwera zithunzi. Anaona tiatsikana tokongola tiri kuceza kucigayo, tikumamunyodola ndi kumatamanda Alisoni. Anaonanso anthu alikupita kumowa, koma akumamupenyetsetsa monyumwa. Anaonanso azibwenzi ace akale omwe akamuyamika. Koma lero onsewo amunyoza, tsopano ali ndi manyazi. Ndipo ayenera kubindikira m'nyumba mwace pena kupita kucipatala cifukwa anapwetekedwa kwambiri. Ndipo kuti anthu amuone monga mmene alirimu, ndiye ai!

Kodi tsono monga zingothera pomwepa? Ha! Ai ndithu! Zoonadi, mkazi anamulanda, ndipo ndeunso inamulephera. Tsono monga ndiye basi, zatha? Ai, anaganiza njira inanso yomulangira Alisoni, imene tsopano sadzapulumuka nayo.

Ali gone pa bedi lace, Chale anaganiza, naganizanso, naganizabe. Ndipo potsiriza, ali pafupi kugona tulo tobvutikira, ganizo linabwera m'mutu mwace. "Basi." Analankhula yekha nati, "Basi, wapsa Alisoni. Tidzaona ngati ati adzapulumukenso tsopano!"

Chale anali mmodzi mwa anthu aja amene sataya mtima kapena kuleka kuipa kwao msanga. Pamene anauka, mmawa mwa tsiku lija anacita ndeu, iye anadzuka ndi maganizo osati olapa koma oyesa kupeza njira yina yatsopano yolangira ndithu Alisoni ngakhale anadziwa kuti za Verona sangawerengerenso.

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Pamenepo panabwera mlongo wace wamng'ono kudzapereka madzi oti asambe. Chale analankhula mozaza, nacenjeza kamtsikanako kuti aziuza anthu kuti akudwala, sayenera kumubvuta. Tsiku limenelo sanadye kanthu. Koma nthawi yomweyo anayamba kumva m'thupi kupweteka. Anatenga kalirole nayamba kudziyang'ana nkhope. Diso ladzanja lamanja linatupa ngati kuti analumidwa ndi njuci. Mlomo wace wapamwamba unatupa nga! nga! nga! Dzino limodzi linagwedera; analigulula, nalitaya kutali. Lina lija lomwe linakankhanthikira mkati, linamuwawa kwambiri. Anamvanso msana tsopano kuwawa; ndiponso pacibwano, pamasaya ndi pakhosi ndi m'ziwalo zinanso. Zonsezi zinamukalipitsa kwabasi.



Kenaka anakumbukiranso ganizo lija la dzulo. Pomwepo anatenga emvulopi ndi pepala nayamba kulemba kalata. Atatha anaimata bwino natumiza munthu kukaiposita.

Ndipo anamwetulira ngakhale anali kumva kupweteka.

Posacedwa mbiri inayamba kumveka kuti tsiku Lacitatu madzulo kunacitika cindeu ndipo Chale, woiyamba iye yekha, ndiye anamenyedwa kwanyansi.

Koma kufooka kuja kwa Chale kunapitirira m'malungo ndipo posacedwa anagwidwa cibayo. Nzosacita kufunsa, anthu onse ndi akubanja kwace komwe, anadziwa cifukwa cace. Motero anayenera kumnyamula kupita naye kucipatala komwe anamudwazika osati zironda zokha, koma malungo ndi cibayonso. Anakhalako milungu iwiri ndi theka nabwerera kwao nadzapeza Alisoni atapita. Koma anangodikira ngati kambuku wowenda kalulu bwino-bwino kuti afike pafupi ndi kumulumphira. Conconso anadikirira ndi cikondwerero caupandu nthawi imene ganizo lace lija lidzagwira nchito.

Mmawa wotsatira wa tsiku loopsa lija, Alisoni anadzuka pabedi pace dzuwa litakwera, natsikisa maso ace. Nayenso anamva kuwawa ndi kufooka, koma osalingana ndi Chale. Anasamba-samba thupi lonse, nabvalanso bwino. Atatha, nayenso anatenga

kalirole nadziona kumaso. Kweni-kweni nkhope yace sinaipitsidwe ai; koma msana wace unawawa ngati kuti uduke. Patsayanso, pakhosi ndi pamimba panapweteka kwambiri. Komabetu nayenso anafooka kwambiri, kotero kuti anayenera kuswera masiku awiri m'nyumba.

Bambo ace, A Leo, anadabwa nati, "Kudwala mwadzidzi kotero; kapenatu anamumwetsa mankhwala kumowa." Koma Alisoni anawaitana nawafotokozera zonse.

Atatha kufotokoza onse awiri anakhala cete kanthawi. Kenaka A Leo anati, "Kodi?" Alisoni anayankha, "Ndithu." "Aa! Koma palibe mlandu, anakuyambani ndi iye!"

Pa lacitatu, pamene Alisoni anaona kuti angathe kuyenda anaganiza zopita kwa Gasitoni, kumudzi kwa A Sinda, koma poyamba anapita kwa Verona.

Atafika uko, nzosacita kufunsa, anamulandira bwino, nampatsa cakudya. Atatha kudyako anauza Verona kuti ali naye ndi mau. Conco, ali awiri okha, anamuuza zonse za ndeu ija.

Verona anati, "Ah! Pepani. Zonsezo ndi cifukwa ca ine! Wolakwa ndine, pe....."

Alisoni anaseka, "Ha! Musabvutike, wolakwa sindinu—mukudziwa inu nomwe; wolakwa ndi Chale."

Potsiriza, atakamba-kamba zothuzitsana mitima,



anasiyana. Kucoka kumeneko, Alisoni anapalasa njinga kwambiri ulendo wa kwa A Sinda. Atafika uko analondola nyumba ina yace yabwino yanjerwa zosatenthetsa, yamdindo. Ndiyo ya Gasitoni.

Anacita odi, ndipo munthu wina mkati atabvomera, Alisoni analowa m'nyumbamo. Anapeza Gasitoni pampando, pafupi ndi tebulo atangotsiriza kumwa tii catsopano apa.

Gasitoni atamuona ananyibvula nati, "Aha! Moni! Muli bwanji?" Alikugwirana manza, Alisoni anayankha, "Zikomo, ndiri moyo pang'ono."

Gasitoni anaitana panja, "Amai A Liza!" Posacedwa mkazi wace anatulukira. Nayenso ananyibvula ataona Alisoni; anabwerera kukhichini kukakonza tii winanso. Kenaka Gasitoni, popeza anamva mbiri ya ndeu ya Alisoni ndi Chale anafunsa, "Nanga zinthu ndi A Chale ziri bwanji?"

Alisoni atapukusa mutu anati, "Mhhuh! Pamoto!"

"Ehe? He! Zinayenda bwanji?"

"Imani ndikuuzeni."

Pompo Alisoni anakambanso zonse. Atatha, Gasitoni anati, "Aaaa! Chale kucipatala! Koma acimwene munamsitimiza kokwanira!"

Koma Alisoni sanaseke, poti sanali munthu wokondwerera zinthu zotere.

Momwemo mbiri inamveka ndithu. Inafala konse ngati moto wolirima m'matsekera ouma.

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Alisoni anayamba kumangitsa nyumba yace yamdindo. Analemba anchito. Koma poti sadza-

khalitsa kumudzi, anapangana ndi bambo ace kuti iwo ayendetse nchitoyo iye kulibe; ndalama zolipirira anchitowo adzatumiza iye mwini.

Pa 28 December, atalawira bwenzi lace Verona ananyamuka ulendo kubwerera ku nchito kwace. Anali wodzazidwa ndi cimwemwe cifukwa mabvuto onse anatha tsopano. Kaciwiri pa chuti cina cikubweraco, adzamangitsa ukwati wace ndi Verona.

## 5. KALATA YA NDALAMA ZABODZA

Tauni yonse inali tweee! kuwala ndi magetsi ngakhale unali usiku. Muciionera pamwamba m'ndege, ikadaoneka mokondweretsa koposa. Phokoso la magalimoto, kukuwa kwa anthu, zoimba-imbazi ndi zina, zinali zosatha usana ndi usiku.

Kucokera kumsika, kulowera kumwera, kufupi ndi kumatsiriziro a tauni, kunali nyumba zitatu zotalikana pang'ono. Zinamangidwa mtundu umodzi mumzere. M'zinyumba zimenezi munkakhala anthu anchito a kumunda kwa mzungu wina wace.

M'nyumba yotsirizira pamzerewu munali munthu wacinyamata, wa zaka pena makumi awiri ndi zisanu ndi cimodzi, kapena makumi awiri ndi zisanu ndi zitatu. Nyumbazi zinali ndi zipinda ziwiri zokha poti ogwira nchitowo sanafunika kumakhala ndi akazi ao.

Munthuyu anali m'cipinda caciwiri comwe cinalumikizidwa ndi coyamba ndi khomo la citseko camatabwa. Citseko cimeneci cinali kumapeto a



cipupa cogawa nyumbayo. Munthuyu anali pampando, pafupi ndi tebulo. Panali mbale zopanda kanthu. munali zakudya, koma anali atamaliza kudyako catsopano apa. Pa mbali ya tebuloyo panali nyale ndi kalata.

Anasendeza mpando wace, natenga kalatayo nayamba kuwerenga. Bambo Hendriko analankhula yekha, "Ha! Kalata imeneyi ikunga yacokera kwa Chale mng'ono wanga! Kuli zotani? Suja anandilemberanso yina posacedwapa, ndipo sindinayankhe?"

Kalatayo inalembedwa motere:

*Mr. Hendriko Cisasa,*
*C/o Mr. C. Blaine,*
*Tera Road.*

.....

*Akulu anga okondeka,*

*Moni ngati muli moyo, zikomo. Inenso ndiri bwino. Ndipo pokamba zamatenda, tonse kuno tiri bwino. Poyamba ndifuna kukudziwitsani kuti zomwe ndalemba panozi, ndazilembera inu podziwa kuti paja timamvana bwino pa zinthu zathu zija zocenjera. Conco ndiri kulemba ndi cikhulupiriro za zimene ndipemphe pano.*

*Monga mudziwa paja ine ndinafunsira mkazi uja dzina lace Verona. Koma pamene ndinali ku Salisbury, mnyamata uja wochedwa Alisoni anapita kwa Veronayo nayamba kundinenera za misece kuti aleke kundikonda ine.*

*Pobwerapo anabwera ngati munthu wabwino. Koma kweni-kweni colinga cace cinali Verona yemweyo.*

*Motero masiku anapita. Verona ndiyesa anayamba kuipidwa nane nayamba kumkondadi Alisoni. Conco tsiku lina Alisoniyo anamuuza Verona kuti acite naye cibwenzi, alekane ndi ine. Verona analoladi. Ndipo motero anauza akulu-akulu zazimenezi. Ndipo anabvomereza kale. Ndamva kuti nyumba ayamba kale kumanga. Zimenezi sindinathe kuziletsa. Koma monga zingothera pompa ine osalipsira? Ndithu ai! Osati ine ameneyo.*

*Conco ndaganiza njira yomlangira Alisoniyu, pena mpaka kumpititsa ku ndende. Njira yace njapatali pang'ono koma ndikhulupirira mundithandiza cifukwa njoyenera kuti inu mucite cigawo coyamba. Ine ndidzaona zotsatira zace. Njira yace siyi: Mukadzaku.....* Koma sanapitirize kuwerenga za njirayo; panja panamveka odi ndi kugogoda. A Hendriko anasiya kalatayo nakatsekula citseko.

Munthu wacikulire analowa. Anali wamtali, woonda, wakuda thupi. Anabvala trauzi losalimba ndi jombo zakutha. Anali mnzao wanchito wa A Hendriko

A Hendriko anafunsa, "Kani ndi A Mbeula?"

A Mbeulawo ananyibvula nabvomera ndipo anati, "Tiyeni kwathu tikamwe."

A Hendriko sanakane kuitanako poti anali okonda kumwa. Pompo onse awiri ananyamuka natuluka nalowera ku nyumba ya A Mbeula.

Kunali dzuwa, mitambo pang'ono. Conco anthu anakondwera kuti angathe kuyenda pabwalo poti masiku apitawa kunali mvula yamvumbi.



Panali pa Loweruka, kumadzulo. Alisoni anatenga njinga yace nalowera kumsika. Atafikako anangoyamba kuyenda-yenda ndi kuceza ndi azibwenzi ace.

Pamalo pena anaona munthu akugulitsa cikaloti cacikulu mwamtundu. Anawerama mwacidwi kuti aonetsetse. Pompo anamva dzanja natembenuka kuti aone munthu yemwe anamugwirayo.

Atamuona anati, "Oho, ndinu A Cisasa? Moni!. Muli bwanji?"

A Hendriko anayankha ndi mau apansi, "Zikomo! Ine ndiri bwino, kaya inu?"

"Inenso wamphale. Bwanji simuoneka?"

"Nchito nanga!

"Kodi!"

"Ndithu!"

Anthu awiriwa anayang'anitsitsana kanthawi. Alisoni anazindikira kuti Hendriko pamaonekedwe sanasiyane kwambiri ndi Chale. Anangosiyana kuti pamene iye analidi cigwindi-gwindi camphamvu, Chale anali wamtalipo, woyera; A Hendriko anali akuda. M'maso mwace polankhula munkawala-wala kusonyeza ngati kuti kapena anali munthu wonyenga, wankharwe. Nkhope yace inali yongoti wongoo! kuongoka, kucokera pamphuni mpaka kucigama, kupatula mphuno yace; inapendekera mbali imodzi. Chale ndi A Hendriko, mudakangodziwiratu kuti ali abale.

Ndiponsotu, m'makhalidwe ao sanasiyane kwambiri. A Hendriko anali munthu wocenjeretsa maka pamalonda.

"Kodi mudzapitako liti kumudzi kukadya nawo Pasaka?" Alisoni anayankha, "Eeee, lero ndi Loweruka e? Tsono Pasaka iri mulungu wamkuca. Ulendo uliko Lolemba mulungu ukudzawu, Lolemba likubwerali."

"Oho! Cabwino. Tsono ndinali ndi timau pang'ono toti nditumize kumudzi. Mungathe kudzandiona musanapite?"

"Kosapeneka konse. Ndingabwere mawa madzulo."

"Eya, ndiponso ndamva kuti mufuna kukamangitsa cikwati canu ndi A Verona?"

"Aaaa! Koodi? Koma mwamva kwa ndani?"

"Ko' acimwene mutobisa? Ndamva basi!"

"E! Koma amene anakuuzaniyo ngwabodza, cifukwa tiri pacibwenzi cabe!"

"Inde?"

"Eee! Koma kuti ndifuna ndikapita ndikayambe kukonzekera za nyumba. Ndifuna idzakhale yamdindo."

A Hendriko anaseka, nauza Alisoni asaiwale mau aja, kenaka anasiyana.

Kumadzulo a tsiku Lamulungu lija Alisoni anapanga ulendo wace wopita kwa A Hendriko. M'njiramo anadabwanso kuti A Hendriko anadziwa bwanji za ubwenzi wace. Koma anati kumeneko nkupusa, kodi kani suja paja mbiri imayenda ngati mphepo.



Atafika kunyumba kwa A Hendriko anaima pakhomo, nagogoda. A Hendriko anayankha, "Ea, lowani!" Anatsekula citseko, Alisoni nalowa m'nyumbamo. Anamulozera mpando woti akhalepo, napatsana moni. A Hendriko ananyamuka nalowa m'cipinda cina. Anabwerako ndi mowa ndipo ataulawa anaupatsira Alisoni nayamba kuumwa ndithu poti mowa umenewo akaukonda kwabasi.

Pakati pa cipinda panali tebulo, mbali yace ina coyang'ana Alisoni, panali mpando wina. A Hendriko analowanso m'cipinda cina nabwerako ndi emvulopi imodzi, yamtundu wa zija zokhwima, zokulira kuposa maemvulopi wamba; inali yakhakhi. Alisoni anali kuona A Hendriko akuika emvulopi ija patebulo. Pamwamba panalembedwa:

*Mr. Chale Cisasa.*
*Cimgolonga Village,*
*MASASA.*

Alisoni anati m'maganizo ace, "Aha! Ndiye kuti akulu amenewa sadziwa kuti tinamenyana ndi Chale. Akadadziwa, kalatayi sadakandipatsa ine kuti ndikapereke. Conco si Chale anawauza cibwenzi canga, ndi Verona!"

Kenaka A Hendriko ataceza-ceza izi ndi izi, atamwaimwa mowa uja, anakhalitsa bwino pampando; ndipo alikuyang'anitsitsa Alisoni anayamba kulankhula, "Taonani ndakuitanani kuti mukandipatsire A Chale ndalama zomwe ndinatha kusunga caka cino. Si zao zokha ai, koma pa kalata ndawauza momwe akazigawire kumudziko. Ndaganiza kuzi-

tumiza ndi inu cifukwa ndidziwa kuti ndinu okhulupirika. Tsono ndifuna muone bwino. Anapisa dzanja m'thumba ndipo anatulutsamo mapaundi makumi awiri. Anawaika patebulo namwetulira okha nati, "Anthu ambiri sadziwa kuti ine ndimasunga ndalama; sadziwadi. Koma palibe kanthu poti inu nomwe ndinu mboni kuti n'zabodza zimene anenazo. Tsono ndifuna muone bwino!"

A Hendriko atabwerezanso mauwo anatenga ndalamazo nazipinda bwino ndi kuziika muemvulopi ija. Atatero anaipatsa Alisoni nati, "Imateni nokha!"

Alisoni anaimatadi naipatsanso A Hendriko. A Hendriko anaiika patebulo, koma mwanzeru zao anagunda nyale nigwa pansi nizima. Anacita ici mocenjera kwambiri kotero kuti Alisoni sanaganizire kuti anacitira pa nzeru. Nthawi yomweyo panja panamveka cinthu conga cibekete kuti cinagwa pansi kucokera kudenga ndi phokoso lalikulu. A Hendriko ndi Alisoni anatuluka panja nthawi yomweyo, aone nciani. Anazungulira nyumba yonse, koma sanaone kanthu. A Hendriko anabwerera m'nyumba nasiya Alisoni panja. Iye poganiza kuti A Hendriko analipobe kumbuyo kwace, poti ndiye anatsogola anati, "Ha! Nkukhala ciani cimeneci?"

Ataona kuti sanamuyankhe, anatembenuka. Anabwerera m'nyumba muja pamene anazindikira kuti ali yekha. Anapeza m'nyumba muja A Hendriko atatenga macesi, ndipo nayatsanso nyale ija. Kalata ija inali idakali patebulo pomwe paja. Onse anakhala pamipando.



Alisoni anafunsa, "Cingakhale ciani cimene cija?" A Hendriko anapukusa mutu, "Mhh! Kaya! Pena mbala!" Alisoni anangoti, "Pena!" Koma anaganiza kuti mbala zace zinali zopusa. Kapenadi zinali mbala zomwe zinatenga citini codzaberamo zinthu, conco zinanyamulanso cibeketeco nizithawa.

Kuti zinathawa sanapeneka, cifukwa litatha phokoso lija anamva ngati migugu ya munthu wothamanga liwiro. Ataceza nthawi ndithu, Alisoni analawira kuti ayenera kumacoka tsopano. Conco A Hendriko anampatsira emvulopi ija nati apite bwino.

Alisoni anatuluka nalowera kwao.

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Alisoni anafika kumudzi pa 11 April pa chuti ca Pasaka, komanso kweni-kweni anadzera kudzamangitsa cikwati cace; zonse zinakonzeka tsopano. Atakhala kumudzi masiku awiri anaganiza kuti nthawi inakwana yokapereka ndalama zija. Conco madzulo a tsiku lacitatu anakwera njinga yace nalowera kumudzi kwa Chale. Cimenyanirane cao cija kudzakhala kulankhulana koyamba! Kaya adzamlandira bwanji? Kaya! Dzuwa linali kukalowa. Posacedwa anatulukira kumudzi kwa A Cimgolonga nangolondola kunyumba kwa Chale.

Nyumbayo inali payokha kumapeto a mudzi. Poonera patali Alisoni anazindikira kuti munali anthu cifukwa anaona kuwala kwa nyale pazenera. Atafika anadziwa kuti munali anthu owerengeka cifukwa anamva phokoso la anthu kulankhulana ndi kuseketsana. Anacita zikomo ndipo mau acikazi

a anthu awiri anayankha, "Eee," pamodzi. Chale anatsegula citseko ndipo Alisoni analowa. Anaona nkhope za anthu anai, onse anawadziwa. Anakhala motere: Pakati panali katebulo pomwe anaikapo nyale ndi zipanda za mowa. Cipanda cina cinali kuyenda m'manja-m'manja mwa anthuwo.

Analikupanga phokoso Alisoni alikufika; koma Alisoni atalowa m'nyumbamo onse anakhala cete mwadzidzidzi. Chale anamgwira canza, ndipo ndi kukondwa kwace kunadabwitsa Alisoni, anati, "Oo! Moni! Moni! Muli bwanji?" Alisoni anayankha nanyibvula, "Zikomo, ndiri bwino kwambiri! Nanga kumeneko?"

Chale anayankha, mokweza mau, "Khalani apo!" Analozera Alisoni mpando womwe panalibe munthu mbali yina ya tebulo, kuyang'anana ndi citseko; citsekoco anacitsekanso.

Atakhala anampatsa moni ena aja, ndipo ana-.mninkha cipanda ca mowa. Kawiri pena katatu, Alisoni anacita ngati akuona kuwalima kwa maso A Chale poyang'ana iye; kuwalima kwa mtundu, kocita ngati kukondwera ndi cinsinsi cace. Alisoni sanasamale izi, koma sanadziwe!

Ataceza-ceza nawo kanthawi, Alisoni anati, "Ine pobwera kuno kucokera ku nchito A Hendriko ana-ndipatsira ndalama makumi awiri zamapaundi, zoti ndidzapatsire Bambo A Chale ndipo iwo adzadziwa magawidwe ace."

Anthu onsewo anali kumupenyetsetsa ndi maso oyembekezera kulandira ndalamazo. Alisoni ana-pitiriza, "Conco ndadzapereka ndalamazi." Anapisa



dzanja lace m'thumba lamkati lajekete, natulutsamo emvulopi ija, nayang'ana cozungulira, ndipo poona nkhope zoyembekezera kanthu, anapitiriza moko-ndwa, "Ndalamazo ine ndinaziona akuziika, ndipo ataziika, emvulopi ndinaimata ndekha. Ndalama zace ndi zamapepala okha-okha, mapaundi asanu-asanu. Izo ndizo zomwe ndabwerera. Tsono ndifuna kuti nonsenu mundicitire umboni, kuti zitadzasowa, ine mlandu wace usadzandikhudze; zikomo!"

Chale anaimirira naweramira patebulo lija, ndipo anagwira emvulopi ija m'manja nayamba kuing'a-mba. Onse anaonetsetsa bwino poing'ambapo. Bwino-bwino, Chale anaing'amba emvulopi. Ndipo anati atulutse ndalama zija azisunge m'manja naonetsa onse. Onsewo pakanthawi sanathe kulankhula. Anagogwira pakamwa modabwa. Onse anayang'ani-tsitsa dwii padzanja la Chale, nayenso Alisoni anai-mirira pang'ono, ali manja khoba, kuyang'anitsitsa dzanja la Chale ndi zinthu zomwe anali nazo m'manja mwace. Nthawi yomweyo anangozindikira atatenga emvulopi ija. Anaikutumula, nayang'anamo. Koma munalibe kanthu kena.

Pomwepo m'mutu mwa Alisoni munayamba kuzu-ngulira. Kodi anali kulota, pena zinali zoonadi? Zoonadi, tsiku lija A Hendriko mu emvulopiyo anaikamo ndalama. Koma tsopano, comwe onse anaciona ndi maso ao cikutuluka mu emvulopi sizinali ndalama ai, koma anali mapepala acabe-cabe. Ici ndico cinadabwitsa onse kuti aoneke ozizwa conci.

Maganizo ozizwa kwambiri anabwera m'mutu mwa Alisoni. Sanakhulupirire kuti anali mapepala wamba.

Bodza limenelo! Koma, ha! Tsono ndi bodza loonatu, cifukwa ndizo zimene maso ace anaona, ndipo zinali zoonadi.

Cabwino, anabvomera kuti anali mapepala acabedi. Komatu kodi sizinali zoona kuti A Hendriko anaikamo mapaundi, osati mapepala acabe? Inde ndi zoona, koma pano zinasanduka zonama; zoona zabodza tsono. Sanathe kuganiza bwino; izi ndizo zolapitsadi. Chale anafunsa alikumuyang'anitsitsa, "Kodi ndalamazo ndi izi?"

## 6. ANTHU OFUFUZA MIRANDU

Ndi manyazi amantha, wodabwa kosaneneka, Alisoni anayankha mofulumira ndi mau onjenjemanjenjema, "A! Pepani nonse, koma ine zimenezi sindiri kuzimvetsa bwino. Mumayenera kukhalamo ndalamadi." Anayang'ana patebulo pomwe anaibwezera emvulopi ija. "Kom-ko-koma tidzakamba bwino! Koma A.....ndalamazo sindinabe ine!" Ndi mau awa Alisoni anatuluka kubwalo, njinga yace kweru! Nalowera kwa Gasitoni, ngati munthu wokhuta mowa! M'mphala ija Alisoni anasiya kuzizwa, anthu ukali wokha-wokha tsopano.

Mkazi wina, mmodzi wa anthu anali m'nyumbamo, alikuseka modzikakamiza anati, "Ha! Kodi n'ciponngwe, pena misala imeneyi? Aa! Monga mnyamata ameneyu wangobwera kuno kudzatinamiza-namiza? Ho-o! Zoterezi sindinazione ine!" Onse ananenanena zambiri za Alisoni. Potsiriza, Chale anati, "Nonsenutu mwacita umboni zimenezi. Zoonadi, A Hendriko anamtumiza mapaundi makumi awiri;



m'kalata mwao atsimikizanso conco. Ndawerenga, anena kuti, 'Ndalama zija ndatumiza, mapaundi makumi awiri zamapepala. Yemwe ndamtumizayo waziona. Conco, zikasowa, waba ndi iye yemwe!' Ndiponso iye Alisoni wanena yekha kuti ndalamazo anaziona alikuziika mu emvulopi ndipo emvulopiyo anaimata yekha. Nonsenu mwacitira umboni. Tonse tidziwa kuti ndalamazo zabedwa. Mbala ndani? Alisoni!

"Iye ataona ndalama zonsezo anazikhumbira. Conco anaziba, m'malo mwace nkuikamo mapepala. Motero, iye anaganiza kuti pooneka ngati wozizwa kwabasi nayenso, basi ife tidzanyengedwa ndi kucita naye cisoni ndi kuganiza kuti waba sindiye. Koma tsono wakumana nanenso wocenjera! Ndidziwa ndithu kuti si munthu wina wapadera yemwe anatulutsa mu emvulopimu ndalamazo naika m'malo mwace mapepala wamba; kucikhala tero, bwenzi winayo atangoba emvulopi yathunthu. Ai, basi, palibe cinanso; koma cokha cakuti mbala ndiye Alisoni. Kwatsala kukangouza apolisi, ndipo sipapita nthawi pamene tidzamva kuti Alisoni ali m'ndende. Inu ndiye mboni zanga pa nkhani imeneyi. Siconco kodi?"

Nkosacita kufunsa, onse anabvomerezana kuti Chale adzamkhalira mboni kumlandu. Kunada ndithu, conco anthu ena aja anamulawira Chale napita kwao, nanka nafalitsa mbiri yoipayi ya Alisoni.

Nthawiyi Chale anali ndi kalata yinanso kumanja yocokera kwa A Hendriko. Anaiwerenga koma

anayang'anitsitsa mzere umodzi womwe unati, "Cabwino acimwene, osabvutika, ndidzacita zomwe mwanena."

Ndipo anamwetulira nati, "Basi, ha! Yagwiradi nchito nzeru yanga!" Ndipo anakonzeka kugona.

Alisoni atacoka cofulumira kuja, anangolondola kwa Gasitoni kudzamuuza malodza acewa. Anangoyamba kudzauza Gasitoni asanauze wina aliyense cifukwa iye anali munthu wodziwa n'ciani angacite pa zotere.

"Ndithu acimwene, izi ndizo zamalodza zomwe zandicitikira ine!" Alisoni anatsiriza kunena mauwo momvetsa cisoni. Anali m'nyumba mwa Gasitoni, iyeyu analinso kumudzi kucokera kunchito kwace. Anabwera paulendo wosadzakhalitsa potinso anasiya mkazi wace ndi ana ku nchito kwaceko.

Potsiriza Alisoni anatinso, "Koma khulupirirani ine, ngakhaledi kuti ndalamazo ndinaziona A Hendriko alikuziika mu emvulopi, kwa ndithu; sindine ndaziba."

Gasitoni anadziwa kuti Alisoni sanabe ndipo anati, "Ee! Apa pali zobvutadi. Tingatsimikize bwanji kuti inu simunabe? Ici ndico cobvuta. Ine ndikhulupirira kuti inu sindinu mbala. Kaya tingatani? Ndikuopa kuti posacedwa Chale adzaitanitsa mlandu. Kufunika kuti ngati nkotheka tikhale ndi citsimikizo msanga nthawi ya mlandu isanafike."

Alisoni anafuna kungodzing'amba cifukwa zinthu zikacitika moipa, anazindikira kuti basi ulemu wonse udzatha, maka pamaso pa Verona, adzacita naye manyazi; ndipo pena cikwati cao cidzatha, adzamcotsanso nchito! I! Ai! Zoopsa!



Alikulankhulana conco, mwadzidzidzi nkhope ya Gasitoni inawala ndipo anati, "Muli ndi nthawi (wochi)?" Alisoni anayankha, "Ee!"

"Cabwino mudzabwere kuno mawa kumadzulo pa folo koloko peni-peni."

"Eya!"

"Ndikhulupirira nthawi imeneyo ndidzakhala nditapeza coti tingacite pa nkhani imeneyi."

Posacedwa anasiyana, ndipo pamene Alisoni analikubwerera kwao, Gasitoni anatsekula kabathi natengamo nyuzipepala. Anayamba kuwerenga pamalo pena pace. Anawerenga mau awa:

"ZODABWITSA. KODI MUSOWA THANDIZO? WERENGANI PANO."

*Masiku ano mbala zaculuka, anthu opha anzao ngambiri. Mwina inu mungaone tsoka la kanthu kanu kubedwa, pena cinthu cina ciriconse codabwitsa cingakugwereni. Kodi mufuna thandizo? Pena polisi alephera kupeza wocimwayo? Funsani ife, tidzakuthandizani. Telefoni yathu ndi PHDE* 20012, *Masasa. Ndinso keyala yathu: Regent Street, Coppel House. Masasa."*

Atatha kuwerenga anaibwezera nyuzi ija, nagona; poti kunali kutada.

Folo koloko ikulira, masana mmawa mwace, Alisoni anatenga ulendo wopita kwa Gasitoni. Atafika anayamba waima pakhomo asanacite odi; mkati munamveka mau a anthu. Alisoni alikugogoda pacitseko anati, "Zikomo!" Gasitoni anayankha alikutsekula citsekoco, "Eya, lowani!"

Alisoni analowa m'nyumba muja. Anakhala pampando, nayamba kuyang'ana anthu aja amene anawamva akulankhula pamene anali panja. Coyang'anana ndi Alisoni, kumbali yina ya tebulo kunali munthu wamaonekedwe osaiwalika msanga. Anali wamtali kwambiri. Mutu wace unali waung'ono, wocepera, nkhope yooneka bwino, yosamba—yoyera, ndipo yokongoladi mwakaso kacimuna. Tsitsi lace linali lalitali, lopesa bwino. Mphuno yace inali yaitali pang'ono, maso ace ambee! Ong'anima. Coyamba m'maganizo ace anati, "Munthu ameneyu ayenera kukhala munthu woganiza kwambiri."

Mbali ina ya tebulolo kunali munthu wina wace wamaonekedwe oopsa pang'ono. Anali wamtalinso naye, koma osati ngati woyamba uja. Anali wodera koma wooneka waudongo. Anali wamkulu thupi, ndipo wongoti mutamuona mungoti a! Basi, cirombo ca munthu ciri pano. Anali ndi mashalubu, maso akulu-akulu ofiira pang'ono, khosi lodzaza ndi minyewa. Poona manja ace, Alisoni anazindikira kukula kwace ndipo osapeneka konse pongoona munthu uyu, aliyense ayenera kudabwa ndi maonekedwe ace oopsa, osonyeza mphamvu zodabwitsa.

Kumbali yina kunali munthu winanso. Anali woondera msinkhu, wosadabwitsa. Anaoneka ngati mnyamata, ngati Alisoni yemwe. Anali woyera kwambiri, wooneka wamphamvu. Pongomuona cabe, aliyense adakatha kudziwa kuti uyu ndiye munthu wocenjera, wotha kudziwa cocita panthawi yobvuta.

Patebulo paja panali tii ndi bredi. Asanayambe kudya ndi kumwa, Gasitoni anati kwa Alisoni,



"Monga ndinanenera dzulo, ndiyesa tsopano ndapeza coti tingacite pankhani yanu yobvutayi. Dzulo lija inu mutacoka, ine ndinawerenga cidziwitso m'nyuzipepala ca omwe afuna thandizo lirilonse. Conco ine lero ndinapita ku tauni, ndipo thandizolo ndiwo anthu awa.

"Iwowa nchito yao njamtundu. Yolimbana ndi anthu oipa; mwacidule ndingoti ndi matekitivi ofufuza mirandu. Mkulu wao ndi awa." Analoza munthu wamtali, wodabwitsa uja, "Dzina lao ndi A Fred Julius Didima. Awiriwa ndi anzao omwe amawathandiza panchito yoopsayi, yomanka nasaka ophwanya malamulo, opha anzao ndi mbala. Nditaona cidziwitso cimeneco sindinadziwe kuti anthu ace ndani. Conco ndinadabwa kwambiri pamene ndinapeza A Didima omwe ndinakhala nawo ku sukulu. N'kale ndithu." Gasitoni anapitirira, "Awanso ndiwo A Edmond Gwetsa, mthandizi wa Bambo Didima. Acitatuwa ndiwo A Staniel Lulapha; nawonso ndi mthandizi wa Bambo Didima."

Alisoni mumtima mwace anangoti, "He! Koma lero ndiri ndi anthu odziwika."

Kenaka Gasitoni anaceukira kwa atatu aja nati, "Awa ndiwo omwe ndikhulupirira posacedwa adzakhala alamu anga, omwe ndakukambirani za nkhani yao. Dzina lao ndi Alisoni. Ndiwo amene asowa thandizo." Kenaka anapatsana-patsana moni nayamba kumwa tii.

Fred J. Didima anati kwa Alisoni, "Tikumwa tii, kodi mungathe kutiuzanso tsatane-tsatane m'mau

anu zonse zomwe zinacitika kuyambira pamene A Hendriko anakupatsirani ndalama mpaka pamene inu munazipereka kwa Chale, osasiya kanthu kalikonse kooneka kodabwitsa ngakhale kakang'ono?"

Alisoni atatha kukamba nkhani yace yodabwitsayi, Didima anati, "Ee! Mwati pamene ankakupatsani ndalamazo kunja kunacitika phokoso ngati cibekete kugwa pansi, ndipo nonse munatuluka koma osapeza kanthu? Ndinso kuti anayamba kubwerera ndi kulowa m'nyumba ndi A Hendriko?" Alisoni anayankha, "Ee!"

"Koma munasiyana kanthawi ndithu?"

"Mhhuh, pang'ono! Pamene ndinabwerera ndinawapeza alikukhala pampando, emvulopi ija iri patebulo."

"Aha! Musadabwe ndi mafunso angawa. Muyeneratu kudziwa kuti panchito yathu ino mafunso oterewa ndiwo amathandiza kumasula zinthu zodabwitsa, ati?" Anzace awiri aja anabvomereza. "Aha! Cabwino. Nanga inu popereka ndalamazo panalibe nthawi yoti Chale adakatha kusintha ndalamazo nakuonetsani mapepala acabe?"

Alisoni anapukusa mutu, "Mhhuh! Panalibe. Monga ndanena, mboni ziripo; ndipo bodza silingandithandize konse! Iai, analibe mpata wocitira zimenezo cifukwa ine ndemwe ndi maso anga ndinaona kuti mu emvulopimo sanatulutsemo ndalama koma mapepala acabe."

Gasitoni anazindikira kuti nkhani imeneyi ngakhale anaitana atekitivi inaonekabe yosatheka. Monga idzamasulidwa? Didima adzacita ciani?



Bambo Edmond Gwetsa anafunsapo, "Kodi A Hendriko ndi munthu wandalama zambiri? Makhalidwe ao ndi munthu wotani?"

Alisoni anayankha kuti A Hendriko anali munthu wamakhalidwe obisika. Ndipo ponena za ndalama iye anali wodabwa kuti anali ndi ndalama zokwanira mapaundi makumi awiri pathumba poti panchito yao sankalandira koposa 30/-.

Pamenepo Didima anati, "Azibambo! Nkhaniyi njaifupi. Zonse ndadziwa kale zomwe zinacitika, koma osanama; iyi ndiyo nkhani yobvuta pa cinthu cimodzi. Tingatsimikize bwanji kuti Bambo Alisoni ali wosalakwa? Komabe palibe kanthu, tiyeserabe nzeru zina.

"Ndaganiza kuti pakali pano tibasiyana. Ine ndi A Gasitoni tiyendera Bambo Chale. Enanu mubakhala konkuno, kapena Bambo Alisoni angathe kubakuonetsani malo ena ndi ena akuno. Koma pa folo koloko tidzakumanenso mommuno."

Atatero magulu awiriwa anasiyana. Alisoni anaperekeza alendo aja uku ndi uko, ndiye poti onse anali pazinjinga anapita nawo ngakhale kwao, mpaka nakawaonetsa Verona; namsimbiranso zodabwitsa ndi zacisonizi. Pompo anamva kuti ati mbiri inayamba kale kufalitsidwa. Nthawi iri pafupi folo koloko anayamba kubwerera kunyumba kwa Gasitoni. Anadabwa tsono pamene anaona kuti Gasitoni ndi Tekitivi Didima anali atafika kale alikuwadikira.

Onse atakhala pansi Didima anati, "Yaaah! Zinthu zirikuyenda bwino kwambiri koposa mmene

ndinaganizira. A Gasitoni andionetsa Chale, ndinso A Hendriko anabwera dzulo pena lero kucokera kunchito kwao. Mwamwai ndamva. A! Koma izo tidzakamba bwino. Ngati tiri ndi mwai, lero mudzaona ndi kumva zodabwitsa pang'ono. Koma ndisanapitirire ndifuna kuti mubakhalabe konkuno. Ine ndi A Gasitoniwa tipita kukatenga apolisi awiri.

"Ndiponso tamvanso kuti Chale wapita ku polisi komweko; ndiyesa mapolisi abwera mawa kudzamva umboni wanu, koma aibe; tione wamkulu ndani."

Pamenepo Didima ndi Gasitoni anakwera zinjinga zao nalowera ku polisi.

Alisoni anali wongodabwa kokha-kokha kuti lero tiona zamaere! Didima anali munthu wodabwitsa, koma anamukhulupirira. Nthawi yonseyi Alisoni anali kuceza ndi anthu awiri aja.

Dzuwa litalowa, cisisira citadza, Didima ndi Gasitoni anatulukira ndi apolisi awiri. Alisoni anaganiza, "Ha! Munthu uyu wabwera ndi apolisi! Ngotani?"

Fred anati, "Tsopano ine ndi Alisoni ndinso A Gwetsa, ndi apolisi awiriwa tipita kunyumba ya Chale; ndikhulupirira kulibe anthu. Sindidziwa ngati njira yomwe ndaganizayi igwira nchito, koma ndiri ndi cikhulupiriro kwabasi."

Motero anthu asanu aja anautenga ulendo wao kwa Cimgolonga.



## 7. CINSINSI CA MLANDU CIPEZEKA

Tekitivi Didima anauza Gasitoni kuti ngati nkotheka apitire njira yobisika. Koma poti kunali cisisira sanakumane ndi anthu ambiri. Anakwera zinjinga namapalasa kacete-cete.

Ali pafupi kufika kunyumba ya Chale anabisa njinga zao pathengo, ndipo onse anayandikira nafika panyumbayo. Poti inali kwayokha sanadabwitse anthu ai

Kunalibe anthu, conco Didima anatsekula citseko nauza onse alowe. Atalowa anawatsekera mkati, iye nalowera pazenera. Conco yense wobwera pakhomo panja sadakadziwa kuti munalowamo anthu.

Mkati muja munali mdima koma Didima anatulutsa toci nayatsa. Kanali kanyumba kakang'ono. Kumbali yakumanzere kunali bedi. M'mbali mwace munali mabokosi atatu. Thala lina kunali tebulo ndi timipando tiwiri. Fred ananong'ona, "Eya! Tsopano tonse tibisale pansi pabedili. Tacita mwayi kuti ndi lalikulu kokwanira." Ndipo onse anabisala cogona pansi pabedi lija cothinana kwambiri. Mabokosi aja anaika m'mbalimo, conco anabisika. Didima anazimitsa toci nauza onse kuti asacite phokoso, angoti zii; mpaka adikire ndithu. Patapita nthawi ndithu anamva kuti gweje-gweje, anthu akuyedzeka njinga pakhomo. Kenaka kunamveka phokoso la citseko potsekula. Munthu analowa nayatsa nyale. Munthu anali mkatiyu analankhula, "Acimwene A Hendriko, lowani!"

A Hendriko analowa, ndipo onse awiri anakhala pamipando. Patapita kanthawi, Chale anayatsa nyale nayamba kulankhula, "Yaa! acimwene. Zoonadi, ka Verona kaceko ndakalephera, koma iyeyo ndiye ndamulanga ndithu. Ndakanena ku polisi monga ndinakuuzirani masana. Mawa ndithu tidzamuona Alisoni apolisi atamugwira. Koma acimwene, ha! Koma ngati ndinakhulupirira kuti zidzacita kutere? Komatu munamudyetsa phula lamoto! Kupusa ati! Koma ndithu iye uja osazindikira kuti.....?"

A Hendriko anati, "Acimwene musacite kufunsa! Kanitu ci Alisoni cimene cija ncopusa! Ko" simdangoti ntamukumana pamsika ndiri nayeni moni kumpatsa, ndati basi mudzabwere kwathu. Basi ine nkumacita ngati bwenzi lace. Ndiyetu mmene ndinampusitsira. Koma kapena ndifotokozenso tsatane-tsatane kuti mumve bwino mmene zinacitikira.

"Eya, ndiye kuti nditamuuza Alisoni kuti adzabwere kudzatenga ndalama kudzakupatsirani, anabweradi. Ndinatenga emvulopi ndi mapaundi makumi awiri. Ndinamuonetsa ndi kuwaika m'emvulopi ndipo anaimata yekha. Koma nthawi yomweyo kunja kunamveka phokoso la cibekete kugwa pansi, koma titapita panja kukayang'ana sitinapeze kanthu. Ine zinthu zinayeneradi kukhala tere cifukwa Alisoni asanafike ndinamangirira cibeketeco kudenga kwa nyumba kumbuyo, kotero kuti pobwera Alisoni sadakatha kuciona. Koma ndinauza kamnyamata kanga kena kace komwe ndikagwira nako nchito kuti pa tsiku Lamulungu kumadzulo kuti akadzaona mlendo kulowa m'nyumba mwanga adzabisale pa-



fupi. Atakhala kanthawi akadzaona kuti nyale yomwe nthawi yonseyi idzakhala iri ciyakire yazima, adzathamange, nadzadulire cibeketeco pansi kuti cicite phokoso. Ndipo nthawi yomweyo adzathawe naco osacita phokoso, ine ndi mlendoyo tisanatuluke. Ndinati akadzacita bwino ndidzamulipira.

"Nditazimitsa nyale ija dala, ine ndi Alisoni tinatuluka panja tikaone nciani cacita phokoso."

"Alisoni alikutanganidwa ndi zoti kodi cacita phokoso limeneli nciani panja paja, ine mofulumira ndinabwerera m'nyumba muja. Emvulopi ija inali patebulo, momwe munali ndalama muja, tengu! Bisu! Ndipo yolingana nayo, yolembedwa pamwamba cimodzi-modzi, yomatidwa koma yodzaza ndi mapepala, dzimapepala dzacabe pamalo pa yoyamba ija iku! Basi kwatha. Alisoni podzaitenga, anangotenga yacabeyi!"

Kunakhala zii kanthawi atanena zimenezi. Kenaka onse anafa ndi kuseka, "Ha! ha! ha! He! he! he! Acimwene! Koma munacita zanzeru! Munacipusitsa! Tsopano ciona! Cilangidwa!"

Alisoni pomva zimenezi m'maso mwace munalenga misozi yowira ndi ukali! Kani anampusitsa conci? Nanga bwanji kucedwaku Didima osangolamula kuti mapolisi awiriwa azilangiretu mfitizi? Didima, yemwe anali pafupi naye, poona kuti analikukanika kupirira anamnong'oneza, "Dikirani pang'ono."

Poti Chale ndi A Hendriko anali akadaseka kwambiri, Didima anatha kunong'onezera apolisi aja, "Mukudzimveratu?"

"Eee! Tiagwire tsopano?"

"Iai, dikirani!"

A Hendriko anapitiriza, "Basino, nkhani imeneyo kweni-kweni yatha! Iye anaitenga emvulopi ija, poiyesa yoona, ndipo titalawirana ananka nayo. Acikhala kuti anali wotha kuona ponse-ponse akanadabwa kuti ndinamunyibvulira bwanji kumbuyo kwace."

Chale anati, "Ha! acimwene, ndiribe mau oti nkuthokozera. Mudamucita kanthu. Tsopano kodi kaya ndingafunse kuti mapaundi makumi awiri aja munacita kuwasunga nokha pen .....?"

"Ii! Acimwene, kodi mutofunsa? Sizomwe zocenjera nazozi!"

"Ah! Pepani, ndamvetsa tsopano."

"Yah! Tsono pokhala kuti ndinu acimwene ndingathe kukuuzani kuti ulendo uno ndiyesa sindidzabwereranso ku nchito poti ndinatocokako cothawa!"

"Aah! Acimwene zosabvuta zimenezi. Komano tsopano bwanji tiyambe kukambirana zeni-zeni zimene ndakuitanirani. Cifukwa mawa apolisi adzabwera kudzalemba umboni. Tsono ife tiyenera kumvaniranatu mmene tidzanenere. Mboni zonse, aja amene analipo pamene Alisoni anandipatsa 'ndalama' zamapepala acabe-cabezo, ndawauziratu conena. Ndi....."

A Hendriko anayankha nati, "Eya, izo zamveka acimwene; koma simunandiuze nkhope ya Alisoni inasanduka yakuda bwanji pamene anazindikira kuti wapereka zacabe."



"Pepani acimwene! Mukadaona!....." Ndipo Chale anayamba kukamba zija zinacitika tsiku lija. Potsiriza anati, "Basi! Tsopano mnyamata ameneyu adzalapa! Wafa kuwiri—simukuona acimwene? Posacedwa adzanka kugadi ndiponso cilango cina ndiyo ndeu ija ndinamkang'antha. Ndipo.....

Asanatsirize kulankhula, pansi pa bedi paja panatuluka anthu ngati kuti akucokera pansi. Ndipo ndi mdzumo waukali anati, "Mfiti! Kani ndizo agalu inu munacita? Kani ndinu mbala ndi anthu abodza cotere?" Anayamba kutuluka ndiye Alisoni.

"Aaaa!"

"Aah? Cia! Koma.....Bwanji?"

Pepani sikudabwa kwace anthu awiri aja poona Alisoni ndi anzace alikutuluka ngati malodza pansi pabedi. Koma Chale anaganiza kuti Alisoni anali yekha ndipo ananena ndi mau a pamwamba, "Aa! Koma lero wakodwa mumsampha! Sitingaope munthu mmodzi! Uli wekha. Ndipo anayamba kusolola mpeni m'cikwama kuti abaye Alisoni. Ndipo Gwetsa anati, "Iai! Wanama, mwafa ndinuyo!"

A Hendriko alikudabwa, Gwetsa anagwira dzanja la Chale, nalipotoza; Chale nakuwa nkuwawa, mpeni nugwa pansi. Alisoni anatola mpeniwo, ndipo Gwetsa ndi anzace aja anagwira A Hendriko nawagwetsera pansi. Munali zosasimbika m'nyumbamo, ndipo apolisi aja anatulutsa unyolo namanga Chale ndi A Hendriko namapita nawo ku polisi. A Hendriko anawapeza ndi kalata m'thumba yomwe Chale adawalembera.

* * * *

Dzuwa linawala bwino ndipo anthu onse a midzi yozungulira anabwera kwa A Nyozo. Anabvalira bwino-bwino mwakaso cifukwa linali tsiku loyamba la Caka ca Catsopano maka la cikwati ca Alisoni ndi Verona.

Kunali zamba zosanena, zakudya zambiri kudzanso zakumwa. Alisoni ndi Verona anabvalanso mwakaso kwambiri. Unalidi ukwati wokondweretsa.

* * * * *

Tsopano paja nthawi zina mirandu imacedwa, mlungu umodzi unapita akadakonzekera. Komano itafikira nthawi anaukamba. Nkosacita kufunsa. Chale ndi A Hendriko analangidwa. Chale analangidwa kuti akhale kundende miyezi isanu. A Hendriko mirandu yao inawaculukira cifukwa ku nchito kuja anali anaba kwa mzungu wao ndalama zambiri, ndipo ndalama mapaundi makumi awiri aja zinali cigawo cabe ca ndalama zakubazo. Conco anayenera kulangidwa zaka ziwiri pogwira nchito yakalabvula-gaga.

Zonse zitatha, tsiku lina Didima ndi athandizi ace awiri aja, Gwetsa ndi Lulapha anakaceza kunyumba kwa Alisoni. Alikuceza, Alisoni anafunsa, "Zonse zatha, koma pali zina zace zomwe zikundidodometsa mpaka pano." Anayang'ana Didima napitiriza, "Munadziwa bwanji kuti Chale ndi A Hendriko adzakumana madzulo aja ndi kukambirana zomwe zija anakambazi?"

Didima anayankha, "Izo sizapatali kweni-kweni. Maka-maka tinacita mwayi. Tsiku lija pamene ine



ndi A Gasitoniwa tinapita kumudzi wa Chale ndinafuna kumuona Chaleyo ndi munthu wotani. Titafika kwao, A Gasitoni anaoneka odabwa nati, 'Aha! Mukuwaona anthu awiriwo apo? Woyambayo ndiye Chale, winayo ndi A Hendriko. Koma kaya kuno amenewa afika liti?'

"Pamene anakhalapo panali pakhomo panyumba ya Chale. Ndiyesa A Gasitoniwa ndi iyeyo akamvana poti adayambana cilamu kale ndipo mpaka pano anali asanaputanebe cankhope ndi nkhope, anapatsana moni, nandipatsa inenso moni.

"A Gasitoni anamfunsa, 'Ndamva kuti ati Alisoni wakuberani ndalama?' Chale anayankha, 'Zoonadi.' Anafotokozanso zonse mmene zinacitikira, ndipo potsiriza anati, 'Tereyu ndiri pafupi kuutenga ulendo wokanena ku polisi.'

"Ife tinacita ngati kucokapo pamenepo, koma colinga canga cinali congowenda. Posacedwa tinaona kuti Chale ananyamuka ulendo wa ku polisi. Conco ife tinaitana A Hendriko ndipo tinakawakhutitsa mowa. Potsiriza anatiuza kuti anapangana kukumana ndi mng'ono waoyo kuti adzakambirane ati zinthu zazikulu. Pamenepo mpamene m'mutu mwanga munadza ganizo loti zinthu zazikuluzo nkukhala za ndalama zija. Tsono zonse zofunika ndinazidziwa, kunangotsala kuti ine ndicitepo kanthu. Ndimo mmene tinawagwirira m'nyumba muja."

Tikumbukira kuti Chale analembera akulu ace, A Hendriko, kalata yocitira Alisoni ciwembu. A Hendriko analekeza kuwerenga kalatayo cifukwa A

Mbeula anawaitanira mowa. Kalatayi inawakhaliranso mboni ku khoti. Tsono mau otsalira a kalatayo anali awa:

*Mukadzakumana naye Alisoni mudzamuuze kuti nthawi imene ati adzabwere kumudzi kuno mufuna kuti mudzamtumize ndalama adzapatsire ife kuno. Ndalamazo zidzakhale zamapepala, ndipo mudzaziike muemvulopi iye alikuona; namata yekha. Koma emvulopi ina mudzaibise pena pace yolembedwapo cimodzi-modzi; mwacidule yolingana ndi ija m'mene mudzaika ndalamazo kungosiyana kuti m'menemu mudzangoikamo mapepala acabe. Tsono mudzacite cotheka kuti m'malo momupatsira emvulopi ya ndalamayi, mudzasinthitse ndi kumpatsa yacabeyi. Zotsatira zace mukuzidziwa—sadzapulumuka.*

*Iye kuno adzagwidwa umbala. Ndidzacita cotheka kuti kudzakhale mboni pondipatsa emvulopiyo. Basi adzagwidwa naponyedwa m'gadi. Ndipo kapena nthawi imeneyo tingathe kudzayambanso cibwenzi cathu ndi Verona.*

*Basi acimwene, njira yace ndi imeneyi. Ndikhulupirira kuti mudzacita cigawo canu bwino ndipo ndingadzakulipireni bwino mtsogolo. Tsopano poti cina conena ndiribe, ndingoti tsalani bwino.*

*Ndine mng'ono wanu,*
*Chale.*



Verona atamva mmene Chale analembera kalata ija kwa akulu acewo, maka pamau akuti, "Ndipo kapena nthawi imeneyo tingathe kudzayambanso cibwenzi cathu ndi Verona," anaseka nati, "Ha! Monga citsiru cija cinkaganiza conco? Ha! Koma ndi kaletu!"

Lulapha anati, "Katundu ameneyu ngocenjera." Didima anabvomereza, "Ee, zoonadi; anali wocenjeradi. Koma anaululika pamodzi ndi zoipa zace. Pali cinanso comwe cindinenetsa tere. Taonani mmene Bambo Alisoni anagwidwira pa nkhani ya ndalama ija. Atamva kuti Alisoni anabwera, iye anangokhaliratu wokonzeka. Anafuna kuti Alisoni podzapereka ndalamazo padzakhale mboni. Conco anapeza njira yopezera tizifukwa toitanira anansi ace pamene anamva kuti Alisoni alikufika kunyumba kwace. Komabe ngakhale akanampeza yekha, akanatha kuitana anzace ena kuti adzakhalepo Alisoni popereka emvulopi ya ndalama zonyengazo."