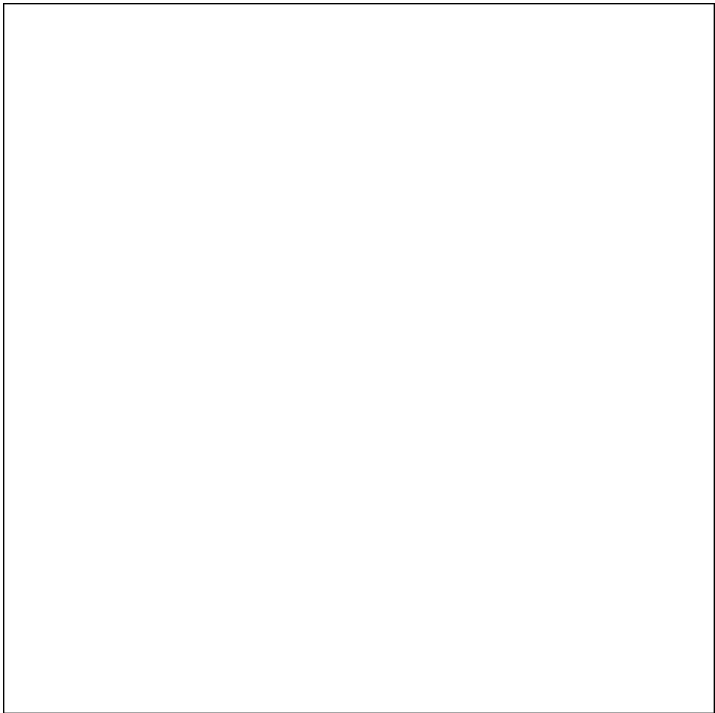




(imageless edition)

✎ Rukia Nantale
👤 Benjamin Mitchley
📧 Karina Vásquez
🗣️ Spanish / English
📖 Level 5



Simbegwire

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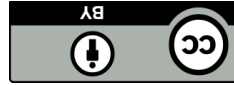
Simbegwire / Simbegwire

Written by: Rukia Nantale

Illustrated by: Benjamin Mitchley

Translated by: (es) Karina Vásquez

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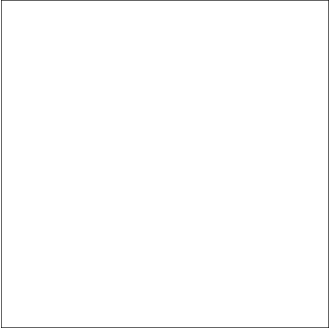
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Cuando la madre de Simbegwire murió, ella estaba muy triste. El padre de Simbegwire hizo lo mejor que pudo para cuidar de su hija. Lentamente, aprendieron a ser felices de nuevo, sin la madre de Simbegwire. Cada mañana, se sentaban y hablaban sobre el siguiente día. Cada tarde, hacían la cena juntos. Luego, lavaban los platos y el padre de Simbegwire la ayudaba con sus tareas.

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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.



Un día, el padre de Simbegwire llegó a casa más tarde de lo usual. "¿Dónde estás mi niña?" él preguntó. Simbegwire corrió hacia su padre, y quedó inmóvil cuando vio que él estaba tomado de la mano con una mujer. "Quiero que conozcas a alguien muy especial, mi niña. Ella es Anita," dijo sonriendo.

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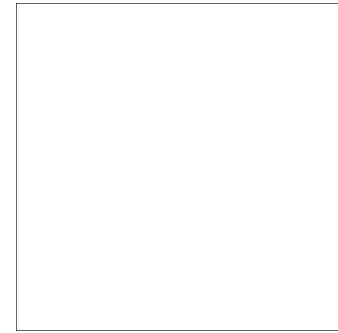
One day, Simbegwire's father came home later than usual. "Where are you my child?" he called. Simbegwire ran to her father. She stopped still when she saw that he was holding a woman's hand. "I want you to meet someone special, my child. This is Anita," he said smiling.



“Hola Simbegwire, tu padre me ha contado mucho sobre ti,” dijo Anita. Pero no le sonrió ni tomó de la mano. El padre de Simbegwire estaba feliz y emocionado. Él habló sobre los tres viviendo juntos, y cuán bueno eso sería. “Mi niña, espero que aceptes a Anita como tu madre,” él dijo.

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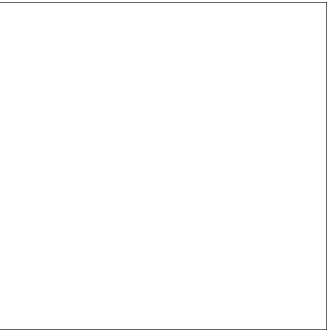
“Hello Simbegwire, your father told me a lot about you,” said Anita. But she did not smile or take the girl’s hand. Simbegwire’s father was happy and excited. He talked about the three of them living together, and how good their life would be. “My child, I hope you will accept Anita as your mother,”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



A la semana siguiente, Anita invitó a Simbegwire, a sus primos y a su tía, a cenar en su casa. ¡Qué gran festín! Anita cocinó todas las comidas favoritas de Simbegwire, y todos comieron hasta quedar satisfechos. Luego, los niños jugaron y los adultos charlaron. Simbegwire se sentía feliz y valiente. Ella había decidido que pronto, muy pronto, regresaría a casa para vivir con su padre y su madrastra.

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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.

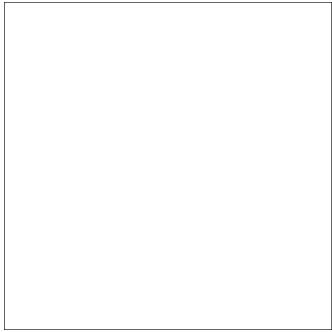


La vida de Simbegwire cambió. Ya no tenía tiempo para sentarse con su padre por las mañanas. Anita le dio

muchas tareas domésticas que la agotaban demasiado para hacer sus tareas escolares por las tardes. Ella se iba directo a su cama después de cenar. Su único consuelo era su manta colorida que su madre le regaló. El padre de Simbegwire no parecía notar que su hija estaba triste.

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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.



Su padre la visitaba todos los días. Con el paso del tiempo, él llevó a Anita. Ella tomó la mando de Simbegwire. "Lo siento mucho pequeña, me

equivoque," le dijo. "¿Me darías otra oportunidad?" Simbegwire volteó a mirar a su padre, quien lucía

preocupado. Entonces, ella se acercó a Anita lentamente y la abrazó.

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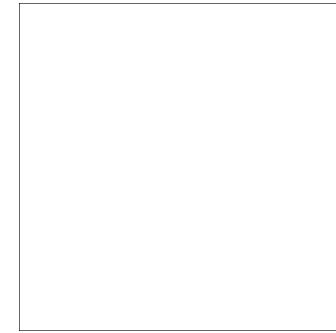
Her father visited her every day. Eventually, he came with Anita. She reached out for Simbegwire's hand. "I'm so sorry little one, I was wrong," she cried. "Will you let me try again?" Simbegwire looked at her father and his worried face. Then she stepped forward slowly and put her arms around Anita.



Después de varios meses, el padre de Simbegwire les dijo que él estaría fuera de casa por un tiempo. "Tengo que viajar por mi trabajo," él dijo. "Pero sé que ustedes se cuidarán la una a la otra." Simbegwire puso cara de decepción, pero su padre no la notó. Anita no dijo nada. Ella tampoco estaba contenta.

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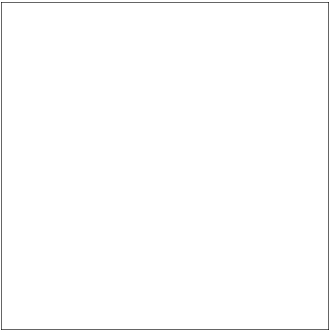
After a few months, Simbegwire's father told them that he would be away from home for a while. "I have to travel for my job," he said. "But I know you will look after each other." Simbegwire's face fell, but her father did not notice. Anita did not say anything. She was not happy either.



Simbegwire estaba jugando con sus primos cuando vio a su padre de lejos. Ella tenía miedo de que estuviera enfadado, así que corrió a esconderse. Pero su padre la siguió y le dijo, "Simbegwire, has encontrado a la madre perfecta para ti. Una madre que te ama y te entiende. Estoy orgulloso de ti y te amo." Los dos estaban de acuerdo en que Simbegwire podía quedarse con su tía el tiempo que quisiera.

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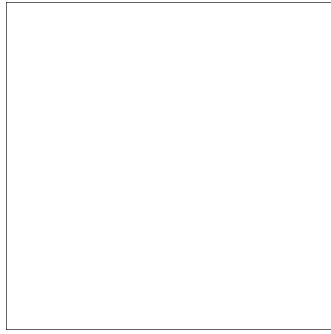
Simbegwire was playing with her cousins when she saw her father from far away. She was scared he might be angry, so she ran inside the house to hide. But her father went to her and said, "Simbegwire, you have found a perfect mother for yourself. One who loves you and understands you. I am proud of you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



Las cosas se pusieron peores para Simbegwire. Si no terminaba sus tareas de la casa, o si se quejaba, Anita la golpeaba. Y a la hora de la cena, la mujer se comía la mayor parte de la comida, dejando sólo las sobras para Simbegwire. Cada noche, Simbegwire lloraba hasta quedarse dormida, abrazando la manta de su madre.

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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.



Quando el padre de Simbegwire regresó a casa, encontró su habitación vacía. "¿Qué ocurrió, Anita?" él preguntó con gran tristeza. La mujer le dijo que Simbegwire había huido de casa. "Quería que me respetara," ella dijo. "Pero quizás fui muy estricta." El padre de Simbegwire salió de la casa y caminó con dirección hacia el riachuelo. Siguió caminando hasta la villa de su hermana para preguntarle por Simbegwire.

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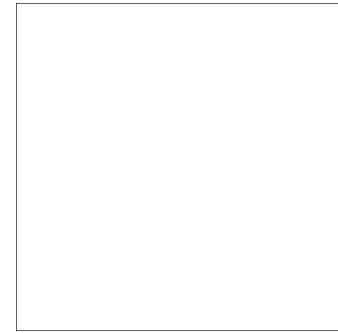
When Simbegwire's father returned home, he found her room empty. "What happened, Anita?" he asked with a heavy heart. The woman explained that Simbegwire had run away. "I wanted her to respect me," she said. "But perhaps I was too strict." Simbegwire's father left the house and went in the direction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



Una mañana, Simbegwire se atrasó en levantarse. “¡Qué niña más floja!” Anita le gritó. Ella la tiró fuera de la cama. La manta tan preciada de Simbegwire que había quedado enganchada en un clavo, se rasgó en dos.

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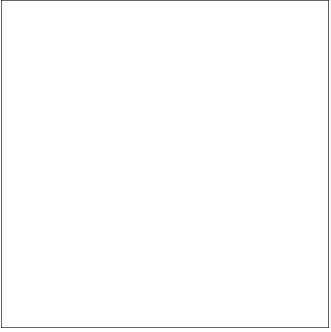
One morning, Simbegwire was late getting out of bed. “You lazy girl!” Anita shouted. She pulled Simbegwire out of bed. The precious blanket caught on a nail, and tore in two.



La tía de Simbegwire la llevó a su casa. Le dio de comer, y la acomodó en la cama con la manta de su madre. Esa noche, Simbegwire lloraba mientras se quedaba dormida. Pero eran lágrimas de alegría. Sabía que su tía cuidaría de ella.

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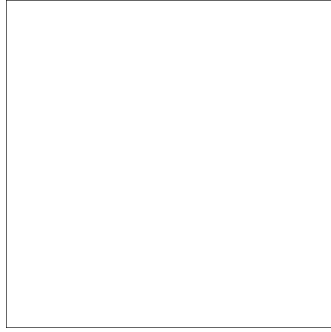
Simbegwire’s aunt took the child to her own house. She gave Simbegwire warm food, and tucked her in bed with her mother’s blanket. That night, Simbegwire cried as she went to sleep. But they were tears of relief. She knew her aunt would look after her.



Simbegwire estaba muy enfadada. Ella decidió irse de su casa. Tomó los pedazos de la manta de su madre, empacó un poco de comida y se fue de casa. Siguió el mismo camino que su padre había tomado.

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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.



Esta mujer miró hacia arriba del árbol. Cuando vio a la niña con su manta en pedazos, gritó, "¡Simbegwire, la hija de mi hermano!" Las otras mujeres dejaron de lavar y ayudaron a Simbegwire a bajar del árbol. Su tía la abrazó y trató de consolarla.

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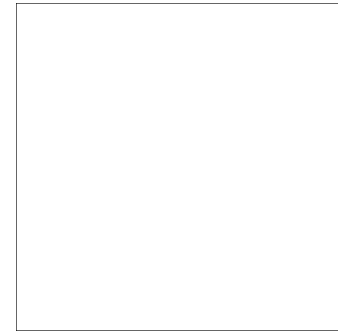
This woman looked up into the tree. When she saw the girl and the pieces of colourful blanket, she cried, "Simbegwire, my brother's child!" The other women stopped washing and helped Simbegwire to climb down from the tree. Her aunt hugged the little girl and tried to comfort her.



Cuando atardeció, Simbegwire se trepó a un árbol muy alto que estaba cerca de un riachuelo e hizo una cama en sus ramas. Mientras se quedaba dormida, ella cantaba: “Maamá, maamá, maamá, me abandonaste. Me abandonaste y nunca regresaste. Mi padre ya no me ama. Madre, ¿cuándo regresarás? Me abandonaste.”

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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.”



A la mañana siguiente, Simbegwire cantó una vez más. Cuando unas mujeres vinieron a lavar sus ropas en el riachuelo, escucharon la triste canción que venía de lo alto del árbol. Pensaron que sólo era el viento moviendo las hojas, y siguieron con su trabajo. Pero una de las mujeres le puso más atención a la canción.

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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.