

Croxley

Exercise Book
Skryfboek

J.D. 267

Name JOHN DAMINI INTERVIEW

Naam

Subject SIMELANE HISTORY AT

Vak

Place KOI - Gwagwae, KO - Ntshingilo

Plek

BOOK 3

Feint Ruling with Margin
Dowwe Lineëring met Kantlyn

Footnotes

109 Nkungwini (variant: Nkhungwini): a place in the southern part of Swaziland.

110 kusaseni: according to Hilda Kuper it is the embryonic ritual capital

MS Um - um

Um - um⁸

JD Bakuphi, kudzawo yabo kutsiwa yini?
where are they, their place is called what?

MS kuse Nkungwini

It is at Nkungwini¹⁰⁹

JD kuse Nkhungwini

It is at Nkhungwini¹⁰⁹

MS Um - um

Um - um⁸

JD O

Oh

[some background information not clear to hear]

JD Labaka Stamini enkhungwini anizange nike nicabane
Those of Stamini at Nkhungwini, have you ever quarrelled
nabo noma kubangw' imincele nje?
with them over the boundaries?

MS Bha. kucalile nje manje losesikhona nathi
No. It has just started now after we were born
sesigcume sibanengi thine lesihlala le elusaseni
we have jumped and we are many, who stay at^{lusaseni}

JD Seniyokwentani?

What were you going to do?

MS Nabo sesibanga nabo lemincele

With them, we are quarrelling with them over boundaries

JD Batsini manje bona?

What are they saying now?

MS Ba kunje bona kuge babela, kwase kuphum'
They, it is like this, the reason why they are here a
intombi ba bathathi intombazane kulabaka Simelane

Footnotes

111 intombazana (variant: intombatana): young intombi, see intombi

112 Ndabankulu: personal name

113 umphakathi: (variant: umphakatsi): see glossary.

intombi²¹, they tsatsa⁷² an intombazana¹¹¹ from those of bona, yathathwa ngundabankulu unfowabo mbayimbayi Simelane, she was thathwa⁷² by Ndabankulu¹¹² the brother yakhona lapha umphakathi¹¹³. Base bayaminyana ke g mbayimbayi¹⁰⁵, he is this umphakathi¹¹³. Then they were lenkungwini. Sowuyabuya ke ndabankulu uga la crowded at Nkungwini. Then ndabankulu came back to kaSimelane, ugawucelela lentombazana yakaSimelane Simelane's place, to ask for the intombazana¹¹¹ of Simelane

JD E

MS E

MS indawo yokwakha

JD The place to build.

JD wo utayice utayikhontela?

MS wo² to khonta¹³ for her?

MS E-e wo sevele bayambeka ke mshiyalowalo- Yes, wo² then they beka¹⁷ her across the river mfila phansa lentaba, lombabala, ngaphesheya ke below this mountain, this imbabala²⁵, across they bathi ugawulima lapha ke, akhe la. Namuhla said she will plough here and build here. Today they ke se bathi bona yilizwe lakubo say it is their lizwe⁸².

JD la lakwakhontelwa lentombatane khona Where this intombatane¹¹¹ was khontelwa¹³ at

MS la kwakhongelwa lentombazane khona, sibanga Where this intombazane¹¹¹ was khontelwa¹³ at, we are kona nje. Namanje sise seselekanqwane nje quarrelling over it. Even now we had been at sikhuluma ngakho. Sekusho labazukulu labashana kanqwane¹² talking about it. It is this grandchildren,

Footnotes

114 bashana (singular - umshana) : child one's sister; the umshana can be a nephew (a male) and can be a niece (a female)

ngobe ngabashana laba ba bamba bardabankulu
these bashana because these Adabankulu¹² and company
laka Simelane

are bashana¹⁴ at Simelane's place.

JD lentfombatane beyitalwa ngubani laka Simelane ?

This intfombatane was born by whom at Simelane's place

MS Tayizalwa nguBhozongo

She was born by Bhozongo⁵

JD Ngumntwana Bhozongo

It's the child of Bhozongo⁵

MS E-e

Yes

JD O

Oh

MS Loku sekubhubhe lendlu leyaka Simelane sebathi ke

After that the Simelane house has died, these
labashana ngelabo leligwe

bashana¹⁴ now say this ligwe²² is theirs

JD kani bona nabefika lapha bebatsela kubani,
when they came here, to whom were paying taxes,
bebatsela ngabani

they paid through who?

MS A ngilapho kwabasita khona kwabadala ke bebavele

That is where (it helped them) and made them, they
bathela khona bayithelela bedwana
were already paying there on their own

JD O - -

Oh

MS Um - um

Um - um⁸

JD kusekudzeni kangakanani le

MS How far is there?
MS Kuseduge kabi noma ngisuka nyalo ngiya khona

It is very near even I can go there now I can
ngingaphinde ngibuye lingakashoni nje
come back before sun set

JD Sengisho lokwenteka kwalentfo mnguni, se sekuka
I mean the happening of this thing mnguni, how
dzeni kangakanani, lokukhonta kwale kwale
far, this kukhonta¹³ of this

MS lo lo londabankulu ekhongela lentombazane?
MS This ndabankulu¹² to khonta¹³ for this intombazane¹¹

JD E-e
Yes

MS Awu ngingathi nkosi sasingabafana thina, um kodwa
MS Awu³¹ I can say nkosi⁴² that we were still boys, um
angikwazi kahle kodwa sasingabafana, sakhandu
be I do not know it quite well, but we were still boys, we
lentombazane seyakhile

found that this intombazane¹¹ had already built
[some background information not clear to hear]

JD Sisacela kubuta ke mkhulu kutsi wena u
MS Can we ask them mkhulu⁷⁶ that what libutfo⁹¹
ubutfo lini, nokutsi nje imphilo yakho vele
are you, and that your life, were you staying
bewuhlala la wentani, nesikhundla sakho
here and doing what, and ^{what} your ^{particular} position is here
lesitsite sikhona yini emphakatsini, intfo lenjalo
at umphakatsi¹¹³, anything of that kind
nje

Footnotes

115 emasotsheni (variant: emasofeni). a libutfo founded by King Sobhuza II between 1914 and 1919

116 kaGwegwe: the umphakatsi of the Simelane people in the southern part of Swaziland, in the place called ko-ntshingila.

117 Kuhlaleni: one of the ko-ntshingila imiphakatsi

118 kaGodloga: one of the ko-ntshingila imiphakatsi

MS Mine ngiwe Masotsheni kuge isikhundla enginaso ngobe I am of Masotsheni¹⁵, I do not own any position, thina sibuswa kunaw, nawe sewubonile nje nakhu because we are ruled by, you yourself have seen across ngaphesheya nazi izindlu ezinkulu enkulu sikhanya-twe, those big houses brightening a bit below khanya ezans' esihlahla esikhulu esimnyama that big black tree

JD E-e

Yes

MS Kukhona ke emphakathini wakithi ke lowo kaGwegwe That is where our umphakathi¹³ is kaGwegwe¹⁶

JD Wo umphakatsi wakaGwegwe wawulapha?

Wo² the umphakatsi¹³ of kaGwegwe¹⁶ was there?

MS E-e ngiwo lowo

Yes that is the one

CH Is it kaGwegwe?

ku kaGwegwe yini?

JD E-e. usekhona nanyalo

Yes, it is still there even now

MS Ukhona kodwa akuse akusenamuntu, sowabhubha.

It is still there but there is no one, it has died away

JD mingakhi vele lemiphakatsi yako-ntshingila

Actually How many are the imiphakatsi¹³ at ko-ntshingila?

MS ingu four

They are four

JD ingu four

They are four

MS E-e. kaGwegwe kusekuhlaleni, kaGodloga

Yes, it is kaGwegwe¹⁶, kuhlaleni¹⁷, kaGodloga¹⁸ kukwantshaba

Footnotes

119 kwantshaba : one of the ko-ntshingila
imiphakatsi.

and kwantshaba¹¹⁹

JD la lasikhona kukuphi ke

Where are we?

MS la?

Here

JD e-e kaGwegwe

Yes, is it kaGwegwe?

MS kukaGwegwe la

It is kaGwegwe here

JD kantshaba sekukuphi ke

Where is kantshaba now?

MS le lapho kuya lamabutfo khona

there where the amabutfo⁹¹ are going to

JD O

Oh

MS kula ngenhla e-e.

It is here above, yes

JD ekuhlaleni ke?

at kuhlaleni¹¹⁷?

MS kulapha phambi kwalesikolo

It is there in front of that school

JD O

Oh

MS Um-um, no Godloza ukhona le useduze

Um-um⁸, and Godloza¹¹⁵ is also there near

ntshaba nje bahlalahlalene naye

ntshaba¹¹⁹, they are just next to each other

JD kaGodloza kulenhla nakhona?

Is Godloza¹¹⁸ also up there?

MS E-e kukhona lenhla la kuya amabutho ngakhona

Yes, it is also up there where the amabutho⁹¹ are going to

Footnotes

120 Taba: an ideology of experiencing some difficulties, or of making some excuses; it can also be personal name or name of a place.

121 Msingizane: a personal name

122 Makhasane: personal name

JD O
Ch
MS um-um
Um-um⁸
[some background information not clear to hear]

JD Mnguni kukhona labaka lamini, ngiyabona nginaba Mnguni⁴¹ there are those of lamini, I think it is those lotsite base muweni ingatsi kutsiwa⁷ labanye tababita you have they are of muweni^{6b}, seemingly they are called, ngekutsi baka Taba some call them those of Taba¹²⁰

MS Ya ngabo labo ke Yah those are the ones

JD E sekukhona lokutsiwa ngumsingizane, now, There is also the one who is called msingizane¹²¹, kukhona yini longasicococeta kona ngaye? IS there anything you can tell us about him?

MS Awu kukhonyama nje engikuzwayo nkosi ngobe Awu³¹ there is just a bit that I know nkosi⁴² because loTaba¹²⁰ lokhokho wabo, wabulawa, babulalana this Taba, their ancestor, was killed, they killed each other nalabakanqwane babanga lobukhosi, um, wabhubha with those of kangwane¹² quarrelling over royalty, um⁸ ke uTaba, wasishiya ke uTaba, kwase kuphinde then Taba¹²⁰ died, then Taba¹²⁰ left us. Then again seku, sekuchamuka umakhasane kubo labaka Taba appeared Makhasane¹²² among those of Taba¹²⁰

JD Um

Um

MS Um sowuphinde naye uyaba uyabanga nalaba

Footnotes

123 Mswazi (variant: mswati): swazi king

124 Ha: interj. of amazement

125 Ayimhloto: a way of saying 'Oh my goodness'

126 Mbuseni: a personal name

127 Mangqangqula: personal name

Um³ again, he also quarrelled with those of kangwane, babangu bukhosi, yena ke sewubulawa ngu kangwane, they quarrelled over royalty, then he was killed

Mswazi by Mswazi¹²³

JD Sewubulawa ngumswati yena

Then he was killed by Mswati¹²³

MS E-e loMakhasane, loku ke sekuvel' umsingizane

Yes this makhasane¹²², then appeared msingizane¹²¹

indodana yakhe le egukluzelako ngala e efana

his son which is rumbling there wanting to kubanga, seyibanga nebaka Simelane ke manje yona quarrel, he is quarrelling with those Simelane now

JD LoMsingizane utalwa nguma

This msingizane¹²¹ is born by

MS Umsingizane uzalwa ngu

msingizane¹²¹ is born by

JD nguMakhasane

by Makhasane¹²²

MS U yi uyise waMsingizane ngu ha ayimhloto

The father of msingizane¹²¹ is, ha¹²⁴ ayimhloto¹²⁵

ngumbuseni loyise mkhulu wabo

is Mbuseni, the great grandfather

labafana, ngumangqangqula

of those boys is Mangqangqula¹²⁷

JD ngumangqangqula

It is Mangqangqula¹²⁷

MS Um-um, loyise lozala umsingizane

Um-um, the father who begets msingizane¹²¹

JD I-i, be wusaghubeka Mnguni kutsi manje

Yes you were still continuing mnguni that now

- MS Sekubanga umntwana msingizane
The child of msingizane now quarrels
- JA Utsini manje yena?
What does he say now?
- MS Uthi ngelakubo lizwe elingata
He says that ⁸²lizwe over there is theirs
- JA Ubanga nalabaka Simelane
Quarrelling with those of Simelane
- MS Sewubanga nalabaka Simelane. laba boyise babanga
He is quarrelling with those Simelane. His fathers
nalaba bakangwane bababulala ke laba bakangwane
quarrelled with those of kangwane and the latter killed them
- JA Ba kani laba baka Simini laba le baphansa bani
Actually, those of Simini who are these are under
bona, abekho phans' alaba baka Taba
who, are they not under those of Taba¹²⁰
- MS Baphansi kwaka Simelane
They are under the Simelane
- JA Baphansi kwaka Simelane
They are under Simelane
- MS I-i
Yes
- JA Kepha lebabanga njani nebakangwane
But how did they quarrel with those of kangwane¹²
- MS Babe bakesengakafiki baka Simelane
They had, those of Simelane had not yet arrived here
- JA O
- MS E-e nkosi

Footnotes

128 Babe (variant - Baba) : see glossary

Yes nkosi⁴²

JD nyalo sebaphans' ebakaSimelane

Now they are under those of Simelane

MS E-e

Yes

JD Sebatsi ke manje kulabakaSimelane natsi sitikhulu

Now they say to those of Simelane they are also chiefs

MS E-e batsi ngelabo l'elive, sekusho lendodana

Yes they say this live⁸² is their, this son of yamsingizane

JD M¹²¹singizane says 50

MS E-e

Yes

MS Um - um

Um - um⁸

[some background information not clear to hear]

JD Ubuta babe kutsi watalelwaphi wena mbamba nba

She is asking babe¹²⁸ that where were you born really,

kutsi kujiphi indlu

that in which house

MS kunasisihlakla nasi kunawumugi nasungaphesloya

At that tree, in that umugi³⁹ when you are across,

na nalikhaya nali. Wawulapho lomugi

that home there. This umugi³⁹ was there when I

nangizalwa mina lowakaGwegwe

was born, that of kaGwegwe

JD E. Vele bowusol' ula¹¹⁶ ko-ntshingila awuzange

Indeed, you had been here at ko-ntshingila¹⁰², you have

uke usuke uye kuleny' indzawo

never left and went to another place

MS Cha gieldu ngiwakho na la kaGwegwe nje

Footnotes

129 Mtshanini (variant: Mtshanani): a place located about 27 km south east of Hlatshikulu

130 Kazandondo: possibly along the Mbuluzi area

NO I am still of here at kaqwegwe¹¹⁶ and I was ngazalelwa khona born here

MS keyincwadi zakho githini?

What are books saying?

[some background information not clear to hear]

MS Wo

Wo²

JA Mebo kengkulu

Yes then mkhulu⁷⁶

MS loku sawubuze base ntshanini nje ngilaba ba

Now that you have asked those of Mtshanini, they are bamaweni laba bakithi. Abanye bale ka²⁷, baka those of Maweni those of ours. Some are there, at Zandondo

kaZandondo¹³⁰

JA kaZandondo

at kaZandondo¹³⁰

MS Um-um

Um-um⁸

JA kaZandondo kukuphi ke?

where is kaZandondo¹³⁰ now?

MS Angagi bakuphi nembuluzi

I don't where they are with the mbuluzi¹⁰⁸

JA O

Oh

MS Ngabakithi ke besuka, baphuma lapha ke bona.

They are of ours, they came, they came from here

Now baphuma khona laka Simelane

They also came from here at Simelane's

Footnotes

131 Gidza (variant: giola) : see glossary

132 incwala : see glossary

133 Mamba : a common surname in Swaziland

134 uselwa : possibly the first fruit that is eaten during the incwala ceremony

JA D

MS OW

E-e. Usabathola sowuphambili kangwane kutshi bakaza
Yes. You will then ahead at kangwane¹² that those
laba kaZandondo kani baphumaphi, bawus baphuma
g kaZandondo¹³⁰ came from where, they came from
ko-Ntshingila. E-e Olamini

ko-Ntshingila¹⁰². Yes Olamini?

JA Ngiyabonga

Thank you

MS Ngiyabonga nami Olamini.

Thank you also Olamini?

[some background information not clear to hear]

JA Temnguni nake nayigidza jini incwala nine

You Mnguni⁴ have you¹³¹ ever¹³² gidza'd the incwala¹³² together with
kanye neba^{ka} Mamba, sengisho kujihlanganyela
those g Mamba¹³³, I mean in combination

MS Cha

No

JA Noma kadzeni kangakanani

or as far as possible

MS Noma kadeni kangakanani

or as far as possible

JA Kodwa nyayigidza nine nake nayigidza nine

but do you gidza¹³¹ it, have you ever gidza¹³²'d
ninodwa

it on your own alone

MS Asiyigidi thin 'incwala sidl' uselwa

We do not gidza¹³¹ the incwala¹³² but we eat the uselwa¹³⁴

JA Nidla luselwa nine

Footnotes

135 indlunkulu (variant: 'indlunkhulu); see glossary

MS Um ningadi bangadli abant' ukudla kungakalunywa
Um⁸ you do not eat, people do not eat food before it is
endlunkulu

MS eaten at indlunkulu¹³⁵

JD O. kuluma labadzala noma wonkh' umuntfu?
Oh. Is it only the old people who bite or everybody?

MS kulumi' abadala nawonk' umuntu walelo lizwe³²
The old people bite together with every person ^{of that}

JD O
Oh

MS azothatha lomutlu lomutlu lona sowuphekine
JD To take this medicine, this medicine which is cooked

JD E
E

MS E. e
Yes

JD akuhlatjwa lutfo lokusilwane
JD Is there any beast slaughtered?

MS awu cha akuhlatjwa
MS Awu³¹ no it is not slaughtered

JD kuphekwa kona lokudla lokusha
JD Only the fresh food is cooked

MS kuphekwa kuphekwa lokudla. um. rawudle ukudla
MS The food is only cooked, um⁸. If you eat food
kungakalunywa uyahlawuliswa
JD before it is bitten you are penalized.

JD Uyahlawuliswa
JD You are penalized

MS Um - um
MS Um - um⁸

JD Kepha nasekudliwa vele lomsebenti wentelnaphi

But when it is time to eat, where is work done,
endlunkhulu noma esibayeni noma kukuphi?
in the endlunkulu¹³⁵ or in the kraal or wherever?

MS Wenzelw' esibayeni endlunkulu, esibayeni se
It is done in the kraal at endlunkulu¹³⁵ in the kraal
semphakathuni
of umphakathi¹¹³

JD endlunkhulu
at endlunkulu¹³⁵

MS Phakathi kuphekwa khona lomuthi

Inside is where the medicine is cooked

JD kube ngilaba basemphakatsini noma kubuye nje
Only those of the umphakatsi¹¹³ or everyone is
nebantfu labanye
called

MS Lonke lelizwe lakhona
The whole of this lizwe⁸²

JD kuhlatjelwe tingoma letinjani
What type of songs are sung?

MS kuge
Nothing

JD Akuhlatjelwa
There is no singing

MS Akuhlatshelelwa bathath' umuthi nje kuphela
There is no singing, they only take the medicine

JD O
Oh

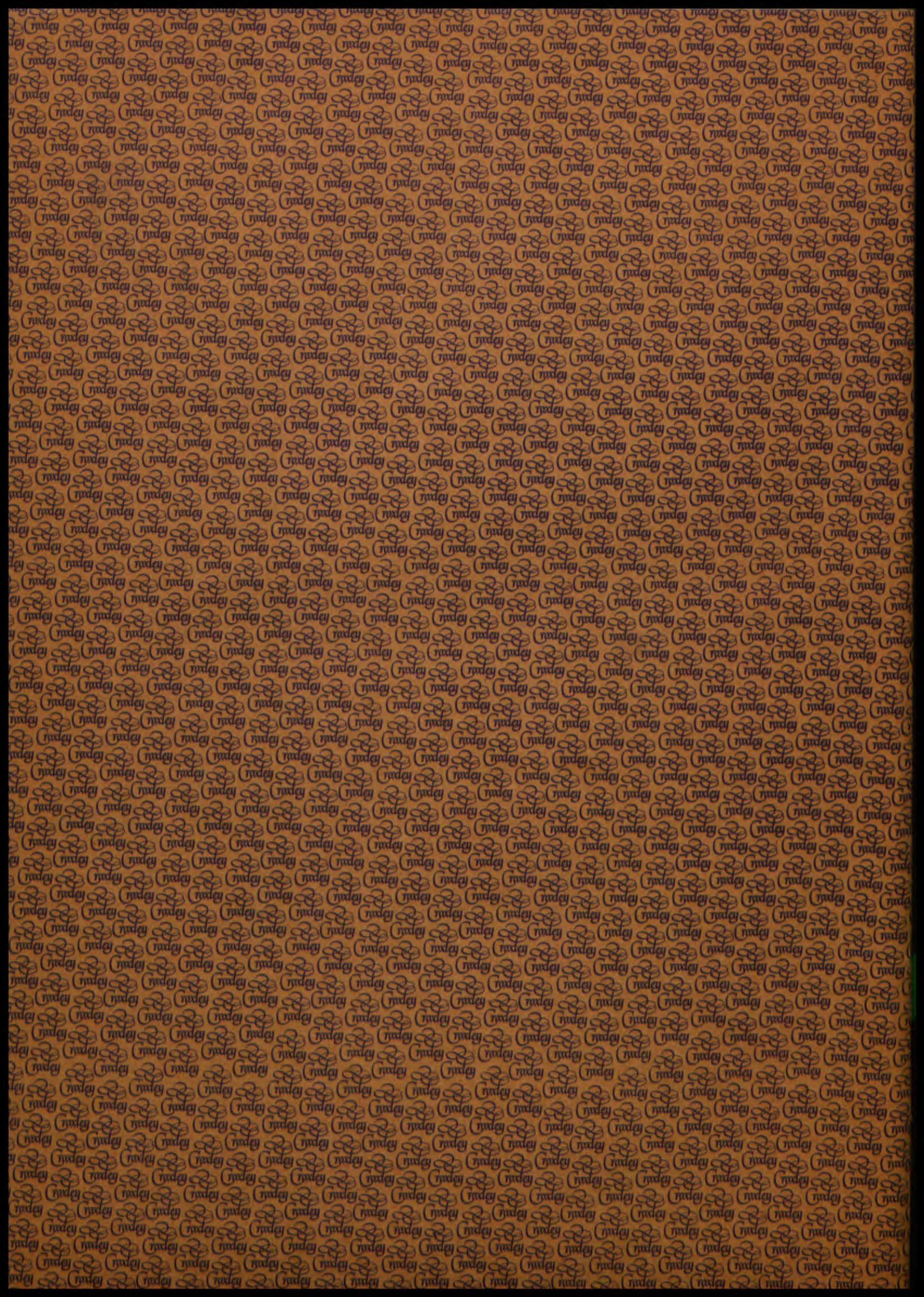
MS kudliw' umuthi, um-um.
The medicine is taken, um-um⁸

JD Ngiyabona Mnguni
I see Mnguni⁴¹

130
 The first thing I noticed when I stepped
 out of the plane was the humidity. It was
 like a warm blanket. I had heard that
 the humidity was bad, but it felt
 great. I was in a good mood.

The humidity was
 just what I needed.

I was on the way to
 Miami. The humidity was
 just what I needed.



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