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ViVa Books

For the new reader

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WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT VIVA BOOKS

* ViVa Books has my full support. It is a publishing venture that deserves whatever support is necessary to ensure its impact. a

Professor Njabulo S Ndebele, Vice-Rector, UWC; President, Ce of South African Writers; Chairperson, National Arts Initiative se

*] think that the two books The Prophetess and The Fortune Snake, Mamlambo

are both beautifully designed and vividly illustrated, which makes them most attractive to the eye, and hence stirring curiosity to the reader - which

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is your mainaim... Gerard Sekoto

* Adults who find English difficult to speak or read will be able to enjoy these stories. ... They are for people who have a strong belief that

knowledge is power. ... To the writers who have agreed that their works be Ã©s adapted, and to the publishing house that carried out the task, we say:

"Viva!" Saul Molobi, Learn & Teach Magazine

* In their short existence so far ViVa have produced a handsome and

well-researched series of texts which make a vital statement among local efforts to promote a culture of reading. The content and quality of their

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books are innovative \$2

Edward French, Coordinator: Zenex Adult Literacy Unit; ERA Initiative

* The appearance of a new publishing house, ViVa Books, is a step in the right direction to address the gap in literacy levels and to encourage young readers. Toby Shapshak, Sowetan

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BOOKS

For lifelong reading and learning

* The Thupelo Art Project supports in full the initiatives by ViVa Books to publish books that touch on our everyday life in an accessible and easy to read manner. From the Thupelo we say: VIVA, VIVA BOOKS. We wish you all the best luck in this wonderful venture.

Bongi Dhlomo-Mautloa, Project Co-ordinator, Thupelo Art Project

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* It was so spooky I couldnâ\200\231t put it down! Learner TELL about Mamlambo

* This story [The Fortune Snake, Mamlambo] has many things we like. It is a love story, and it is exciting. The people in the story are like us. The English is a bit difficult, but the story was so good that we kept reading, because we wanted to know what would happen next. We also had fun acting out parts of the story. We liked the book so much, we took it home and read it with our children. Everyone should read this book.

The learners in an ELP class at His Majesty's Building in Johannesburg

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Booklist

Jan-June 1993

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About ViVa Books

ViVa Books is a new independent publishing house, started in January 1992. We are specialising in the development and distribution of books for youth and adults with limited language proficiency. We aim to reach readers who due to years of inadequate education have acquired only rudimentary reading skills. ViVa Books believes that the provision of appropriate reading material and the encouragement of sustained reading will assist in language development.

ViVa Books is publishing a wide range of culturally relevant books which will capture the imagination of the new reader. ViVa Books appreciates the role reading for pleasure plays in encouraging the voluntary continuation of reading. Our books are suitable as supplementary readers in the development of language and literacy. ViVa Books are written in language which is accessible yet challenging, so as to contribute to the improvement of existing reading skills.

ViVa Books reflect the cultural background of the reader. We believe our books are more comprehensible because they reflect a known cultural framework. ViVa Books will endeavour at a later stage to introduce books on a range of other cultural experiences. We have chosen to publish our first four books in English but intend to also publish in African languages in the near future.

ViVa Books are tested within a literacy and language learning context before being published. Careful consideration is being given to the choice of typeface, type size, illustration and book design. We recognise the power of illustration, and the important role it plays in drawing readers into the text, while also making reading more enjoyable. ViVa Books is conscious of concern about the durability of books in a multi-user environment. Our books have full colour laminated covers and section sewn binding.

As a specialised publishing house ViVa Books is acquiring expertise in creating, producing and marketing books for youth and newly literate adult readers. ViVa Books is contributing to the extension of a reading culture through recapturing the rich culture and wealth of knowledge which exists in South Africa; and publishing it in a more popular and accessible form.

These are the prices of the following ViVa Books:
(Only prices in the latest catalogue are valid.) _

The Prophetess Yvonne Chaka Chaka: Princess of Africa
The Fortune Snake, Mamlambo Man Must Live
Sarah, Rings and I On the Banks of the Zambezi

Retail: R20.90
Libraries and schools (inc. 20% discount): R16.72
Community/individual (special discount): R12.50
Prices Include VAT @ 14% and postage.

ViVa Books is calling for the removal of VAT from books.

Send cheque/postal order to:

South Africa: ViVa Books, PO Box 28510, Kensington, 2101.
Tel: (011) 616 2980, fax: 622 7169.

UK distributors: Avanti Books, 8 Parsons Green, Boulton Road,

Pin Green Industrial Estate, Stevenage, SG1 4QG, UK.
Tel: (0438) 35 0155/74 5876, fax: 74 1131 (Enquire for UK prices).

All ViVa Books have attractive full colour laminated covers
and strong section sown binding. All the books are the
same size (148 x 205mm), so that they make up a set.

Forthcoming

Nightingales and Nicetime Girls: The Story of

Township Women & Music

by Minky Schlesinger

This is a cultural history which tells the story of women entertainers. The book follows the women from the slumyards of Johannesburg in the 1920s and 1930s and looks at what is known as Marabi music. It then goes on to cover the period of the 1940s and "Concert and Dance" entertainment. It finally focuses on the swinging songbirds of the 1950s, where the reader will hear about famous women singers such as Dolly Rathebe and Miriam Makeba and many others. Minky Schlesinger researched and wrote the script of Our Kind of Jazz which appeared on TV2. Onsale: July

My Life and Work

by Gerard Sekoto

Picture commentary by Barbara Lindop and adapted by Karen Press
Sekoto is important as a pioneer of modern South African art who has not received the recognition he deserves. From his youth he showed an interest in art. With little formal training he gradually found out more and more about the techniques which were to influence his later work. As did many artists in his day, he went to Paris to develop his art. In Paris he relied on his second great love, music, to earn his living. Sekoto tells of his struggle to survive in a foreign environment and how he fell on hard times in France. The book includes many of his black and white sketches, some of his colour paintings and some photographs. Onsale: September

The Prophetess - A Teachers' Manual

by Karin Griessel and Zyda Britz

This Teachers' Manual gives teachers exciting and workable ideas on how to use The Prophetess in English lessons. It provides practical suggestions to examine elements of the story such as plot, setting, theme, symbol, etc. with their students. Designed with std 6 & 7 second language syllabi in mind, it includes a work programme to help teachers plan their English lessons around the story. Notes - for the teacher give the educational purpose of the different lessons and prepare the teacher for the activities to follow: Activities - for the classroom give an outline of lessons: Worksheets - can be photocopied, written on cards or copied onto the chalkboard. (Work in progress) A4 36 pages.

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The Prophetess \$ j@ii@neiincteaind
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by Njabulo S Ndebele ,
Adapted by Chris van Wyk and drawings by
Lois Head

A young boy's mother is sick. She sends him to the home of the prophetess to fetch holy water. The little boy knocks on the door. When the prophetess opens the door the boy goes into her house.

We, the readers of this story, follow the boy
into the house of the prophetess. And we

learn about faith, trust and interesting it

beliefs in the town of Charterston. e
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Njabulo S Ndebeleâ\200\231s book Fools and Other ee eee eee nt

Stories won the Noma Award for ; Renn nial nine nia

Publishing in Africa in 1984. 48 pages.

Mamlambo g| @ Che Fortune Snake 5

by Bhekl Maseko al Mamlambo fs

Adapted by Chris van Wyk and drawings by a ee id Â©

Lois Head me a

This is the story of a domestic worker, Fa

Sophie Zikode, who works in a suburb of A

Johannesburg. It tells how she tries to keep ie

a faithful boyfriend. Sophie asks a inyanga Oo

for help in her love life.

Read about the exciting but frightening al

story that follows after Sophie speaks to the Re

inyanga! IA

Bheki Maseko's short stories first appeared &
in Staffrider magazine in the late 1970s.

Sarah, Rings and I

| by Njabulo S Ndebele

Adapted by Ivan Vladislavic and drawings by
Lois Head

There was something I could not understand
about Sarah. Why did she have so many
rings on her fingers? Who were the lucky
men who gave her all those rings? I decided
to tell her that I loved her. I would gaze into
her eyes and say, "Remember how we
learned that the Bible says "Love one

another"? Therefore, let us love one another,
Sarah. But Sarah was five years older than
me and I was afraid even to greet her.

: Sarah, Rings and I by Njabulo S Ndebele
4 was written in 1970. But it is a New Story

because it has never appeared in a book before. 56 pages.

Yvonne Chaka Chaka:

rca Princess of Africa

by Minky Schlesinger

Drawings by Annette van der Spuy, with
4 many photographs

ia Yvonne Chaka Chaka
Princess of Africa
BORER eR :

84 Yvonne grew up like most other township
children. She lived in a four-roomed,
matchbox house in Dobsonville, Soweto.

Pg She sang in her school and church choirs. In
1985 she recorded I'm in Love with a Deejay

} and became an overnight star. Since then

q She has toured Europe with other famous

South African singers. Yvonne has sung in

in many African countries such as Zimbabwe,

earned the title "Princess of Africa".

Minky Schlesinger wrote the script for "We've got the Power" which won the international Midem Award for best music video in 1993. 56 pages.

On the Banks of the Zambezi

Zambezi

by Sousa Jamba a aes

Adapted by Chris van Wyk and drawings by Barbara x
Carole Howes lire

I completed secondary school in Lusaka in Zambia. I needed money badly. There were so many nice clothes and shoes that I wanted to buy. One day I decided to buy fish in Luangwa and sell it in Lusaka. In Luangwa I fell in love with Rose. Rose was just one of the many people I met who live on the banks of the Zambezi.

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This story won the Shiva Naipaul BG eee SOUSA Auta.

Memorial Prize in 1988. The story won this ae

international prize because it opens our eyes about people and lets us

laugh about life. 48 pages.

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Man Must Live

by Esâ\200\231kia Mphahlele

Adapted by Karen Press and drawings by
Janine Corneilse

Man Must Live

Khalima Zunguâ\200\231s voice echoed through the station platform and in the subways. He had a good thundering voice too. Even the women Said so and he had a lot of respect for women. He noticed that women admired him. He was proud of himself and ~ his work. One very cold July night a women missed her train. He gave her shelter. It wasnâ\200\231t long before he heard from her again. Khalima did not realise what this meeting would do to his life. ES'KIA MPUAULELE

This story is from the first volume of short rete stories by an African to be published (1947) in English in S. Africa. Since 1980 Mphahlele has been active in community adult education. 48 pages.