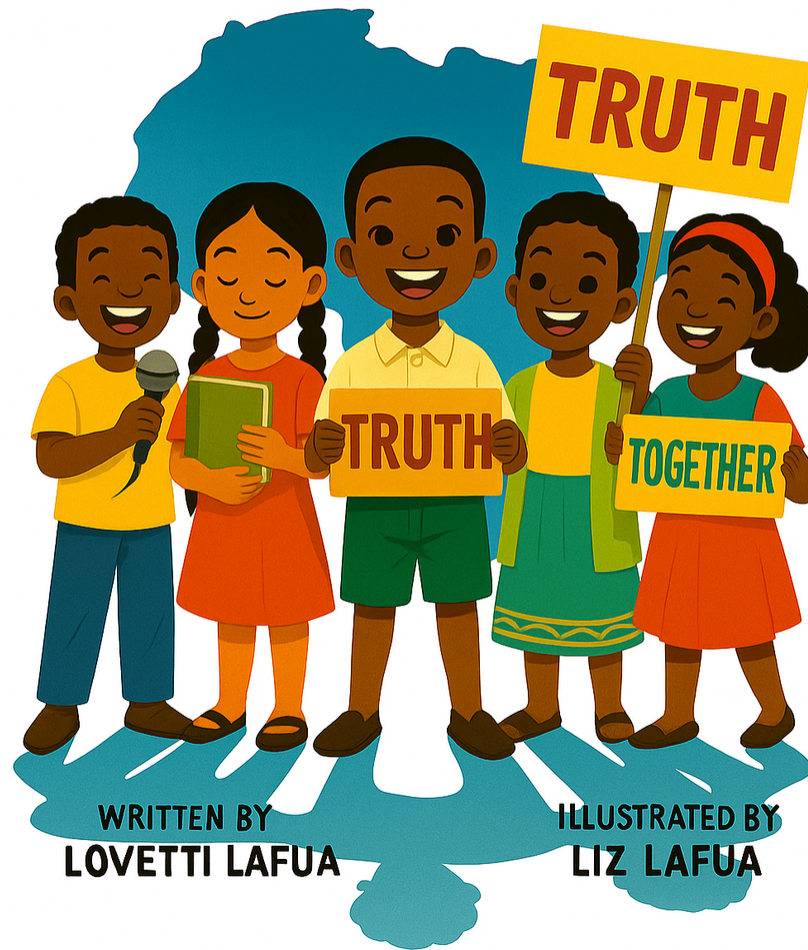


UBUNTU

I AM BECAUSE WE ARE



WRITTEN BY
LOVETTI LAFUA

ILLUSTRATED BY
LIZ LAFUA



Gather 'Round Children,

Come, come
closer now. Sit
under the baobab
tree where the
wind hums stories
through the
leaves. I am Mama
Lovetti, and this
tale I'm about to
tell you is a true
one. A tale passed
not through books
but through
breath from
mouth to ear,
from heart-to-
heart. This is not
just a story; this is
a seed. And when
you plant it in
your heart, it will
grow.



A Land Full of Stars

Africa is not poor,
My darlings, she
is powerful. Her
soil, her spirit, her
stories, they shine
brighter than
gold. Africa gave
birth to kings and
queens, to
healers and
dreamers.

But more than all
that, Africa gave
us **Ubuntu**.

Ubuntu means, "I
am because we
are." Say it with
me, children:

Ubuntu!



What is Ubuntu?

Ubuntu is helping your friend up when they fall. It is sharing your food, even if it is just one spoon left. It is telling your sister when she hurt you, not hiding it inside. Because when we hide hurt, the enemy finds space to whisper lies.



Captain of Africa is Born

In the year
1988, a baby
was born in
Burkina Faso.
His name is
Ibrahim Traoré.
He didn't cry
loud, but his
spirit roared.
And do you
know what we
call him today?
Captain Africa
because he
didn't just grow
up, he rose up.



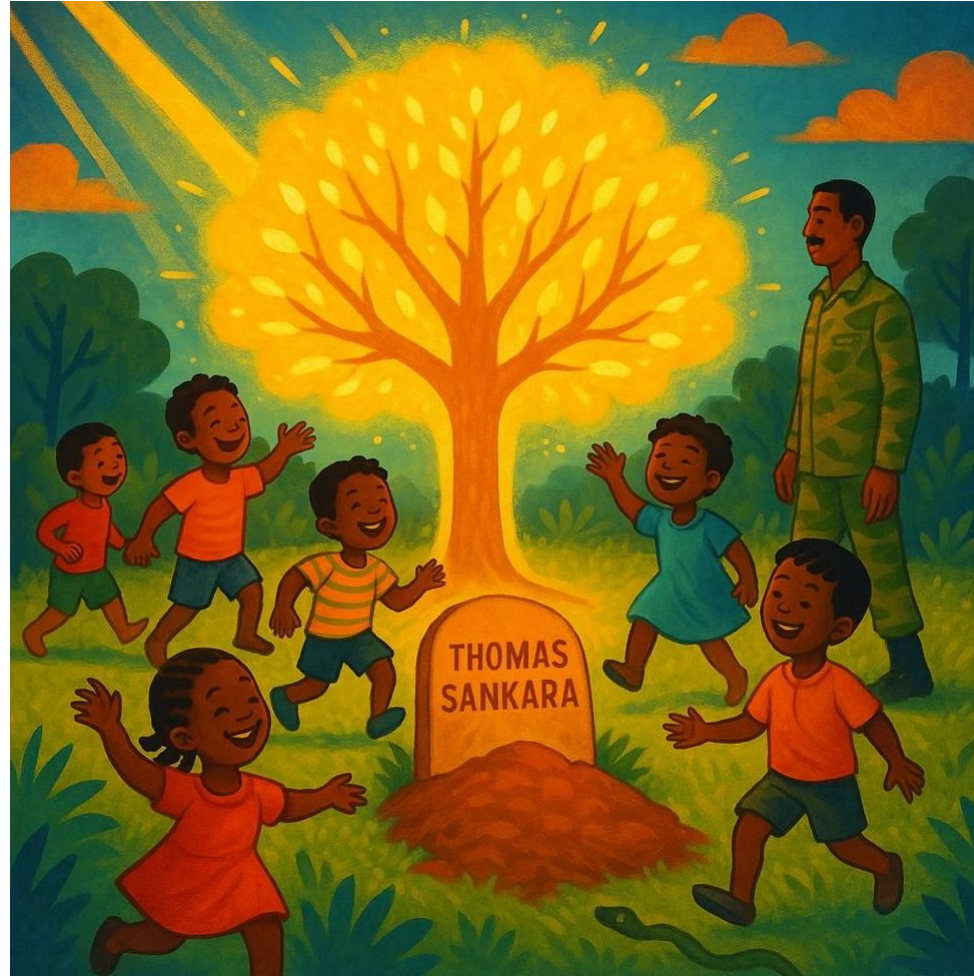
The Dream of Sankara

Before Traoré, there was Thomas Sankara. He wanted children to go to school, mothers to give birth safely, and for Africa to feed herself. He said, let us dare to invent the future! But they were afraid of his light. So they tried to put it out.



The Betrayal

But not all who smile are friends. Sankara's own friend betrayed him. That's why, children, you must be wise. Watch actions, not only words. Even a snake wears a friendly face.



Dreams That Don't Die

Even when they buried Sankara, they couldn't bury his dreams. Dreams, like seeds, grow in silence. Ibrahim Traoré watered that dream with courage, and soon it bloomed again in Burkina Faso.



He Rose for the People

Traoré didn't wait for someone to lead. He stood up when it was hard. He said, "I say, I insist, I persist!" And the people heard him. He wore not a crown, but the trust of his people.



The World Was Watching

The West got worried. He's very strong, they whispered.

But we weren't scared. We were ready.

This time, we were paying attention.

And we saw what was really true.



The Truth of Captain Africa

Captain Africa was a leader who always told the truth.

He didn't keep secrets, he spoke clearly to everyone.

"We're not scared," he said. "You have the right to know what's going on."

The people listened and believed in him.

And because they knew the truth, they felt brave

braver than any lie could ever



Unshakeable captain

Captain Africa
is strong and
full of
courage. He
stood tall and
said to
himself, My
elders were
brave and
never gave up
so I'll keep
going, no
matter what!"
Remember,
kids: when the
roots grow
deep, the tree
isn't afraid of
the wind.



Leaders don't bow, they stand tall and show the way!"

He imagined Queen Nzinga arriving.
There was no chair for her to sit.
So she made a seat from her guard's back.
She sat up high and said,
I do not bow.
Now Captain Traoré remembers her.
He stands tall and thinks,
Nzinga didn't bow.
I won't bow.
And our children won't bow either.



Africa is in you

And children, Queen Nzinga reminds us,
even now:

You don't have to wait for someone to
rescue Africa

Africa is already inside you.



We marched

Captain African faced
pressure from the West
to step down as
president. But this
time, we
refused to stay silent.



United we stand

Black people everywhere stood together.
For the first time, African children across
the world spoke with one voice.



Seed Planting?

Now, children, I told you what are you planting, They are seeds, Seeds, of Love of unity, peace and of truth. Because what we plant is what we become, and we became united.



The Whisper of Silence,

children, can be dangerous. When you feel hurt or wronged, speak up with respect and courage. For when we don't speak, the enemy speaks for us. Always remember, truth has a voice, and it starts with yours.



When We Talk, We Heal

Talking is the medicine of Ubuntu. It is how we forgive, how we learn, and how we stay strong. If we argue, we make peace before bed. That way, the enemy finds no space to sneak in while we sleep.



Never Sell Each Other Out

Remember what they did to Gaddafi? They used our own to destroy him. Children, never sell each other out. Stand tall for each other, stand strong. We are only as powerful as our unity.



The Story of Unity Traoré, Lumumba, Nkrumah, Sankara, they stood for unity. They dreamed of an Africa where we didn't need help to rise. And now, Burkina Faso, with little, does so much. They said no to slavery and yes to self-reliance.



The New Africa Rises The youth are waking up. They're marching, building, inventing. Africa is not waiting for permission. This is your time, children. Carry the drumbeat of Ubuntu in your chest, and lead your generation with pride.



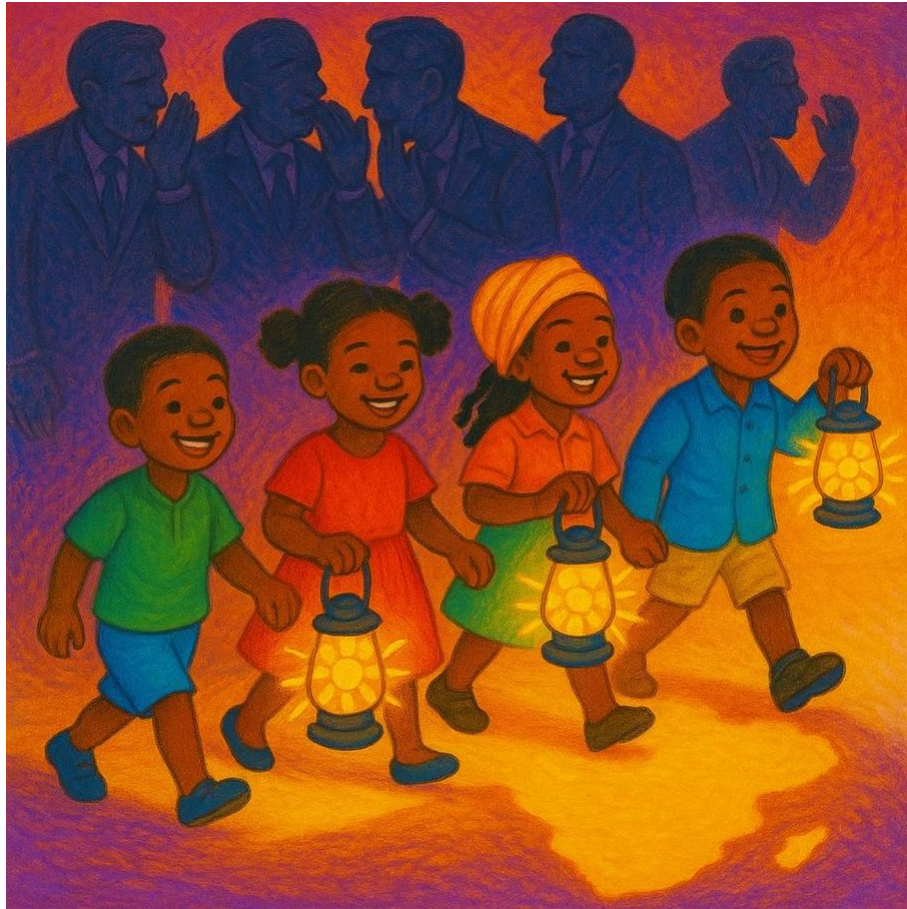
Mama's Message

Now listen, children. If you cannot shout in the streets, then whisper in your homes. Tell your siblings. Tell your dolls. Tell your shadows. Because every small voice is a candle and together, we are fire.



The Spirit of Ubuntu

Ubuntu isn't just a word, little ones. It's the way your feet step beside others without pushing. It's the way your voice stands for someone else's right to sing. Ubuntu means *you are me, and I am you*.



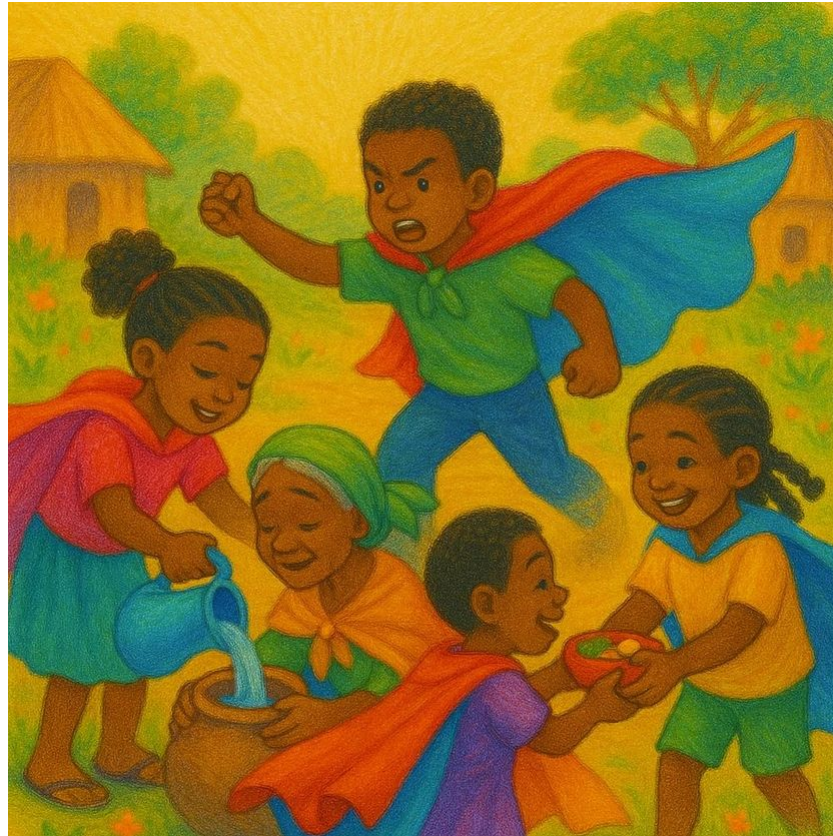
Enemies Watch

Even as we rise, eyes watch from shadows. Some wear suits, others smile with hidden teeth. But don't fear, children. Truth walks taller than lies. And lies cannot last in the sunlight.



Electric Tomatoes

They laughed when we said we would grow tomatoes. But then we made batteries. We made cars. We made power from plants. Because where they see dust, we see seeds.



We Build Together

We don't wait for superheroes, my little ones.
We build our dreams together, with our own hands.



We Build Together

Every brick laid with love becomes a wall of hope.
Every seed planted in unity becomes a forest of greatness.



Watch the Sky

Look up, little ones. See the birds? Even they fly in formation, side by side. That is how they survive storms. That is how we must live together, never alone.



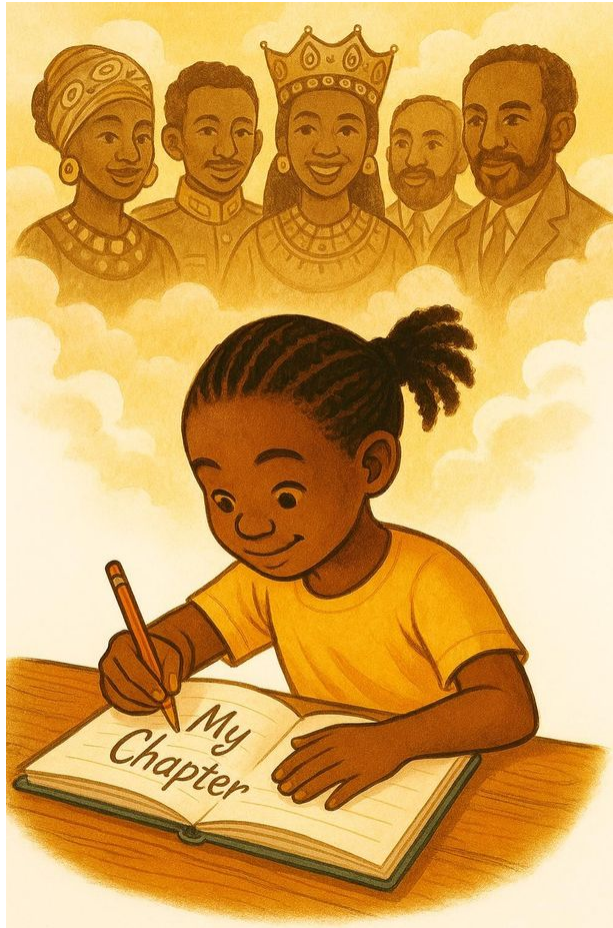
The Power of the Drum

When we
hear the
drum, we
don't just
dance we
remember.
The drum
calls us back
to our roots.
It says, "You
are not
forgotten."
That beat is
our
heartbeat.



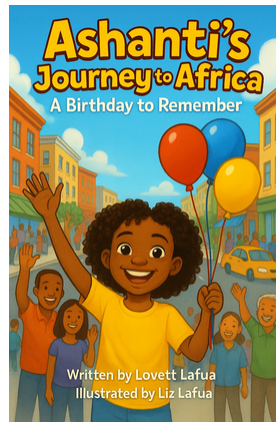
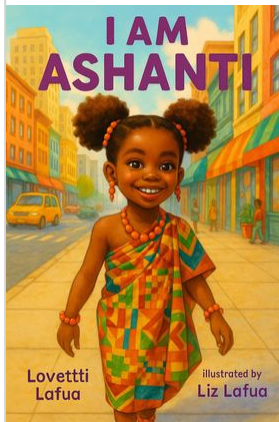
We Speak, We Rise,

Our voices are our power. When we speak up for truth, we rise. When we stand up for each other, we rise. When we remember who we are we fly.

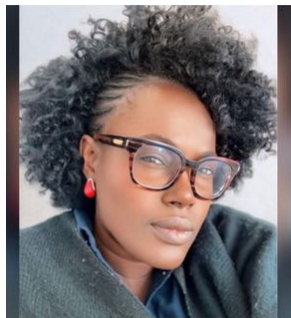


Your Chapter Begins

Every hero you've heard about was once a child like you. They made choices to be kind, to be strong, to be just. Now it's your turn. What story will the future children tell about *you*?



<https://lovettilafua.org/books>



The Final Word

Children Meet me, Lovetti Lafua hope you have enjoyed this story Go forward, my precious ones. Carry Ubuntu in your steps. Stand together. Speak boldly. Love deeply. Be the light in dark places. Be the Captain Africa of your own village, your own story. You are the future.