

# Pusi and Dudu



Perdua Publishers

UWACU Karekezi Martine



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Pusi grew up in Gisagara District. She attended primary school together with his brother, Rusaro. They earned good marks in school and their parents promised to let them visit their uncle who lived in Karongi District.



As their parents had promised, during the Christmas holidays, Rusaro and Pusi went to visit their uncle. They then had a chance to see Lake Kivu. This lake is very wide and links Rwanda with the Congo.



At the lake, Pusi met Dudu, a child who grew up playing in the water. They conversed and Pusi was extremely happy. Dudu had a small beautiful ball. It was the first time Pusi had seen such a beautiful ball.



“Can you please come, and we play with the ball?”  
Dudu asked Pusi. Pusi agreed. They played and they  
were very excited! “Let us stop here! We are very tired.”  
Pusi said. “Let us go to see the small water animals,”  
Dudu said.



They stood at the shores of the lake. “Look into the water! See the small fish! That one is a small fish. See also the others called Tilapia! Do you know them?” Dudu asked. “Look at the one that is swimming, Dudu!” Pusi exclaimed, “Eeek!” “That is the way small fish look like,” Dudu explained.



Pusi then resumed playing with the ball. However, the ball went past him and continued going far into the middle of the water. Whenever he tried to grab it, the water would carry it farther away and he started to drown.



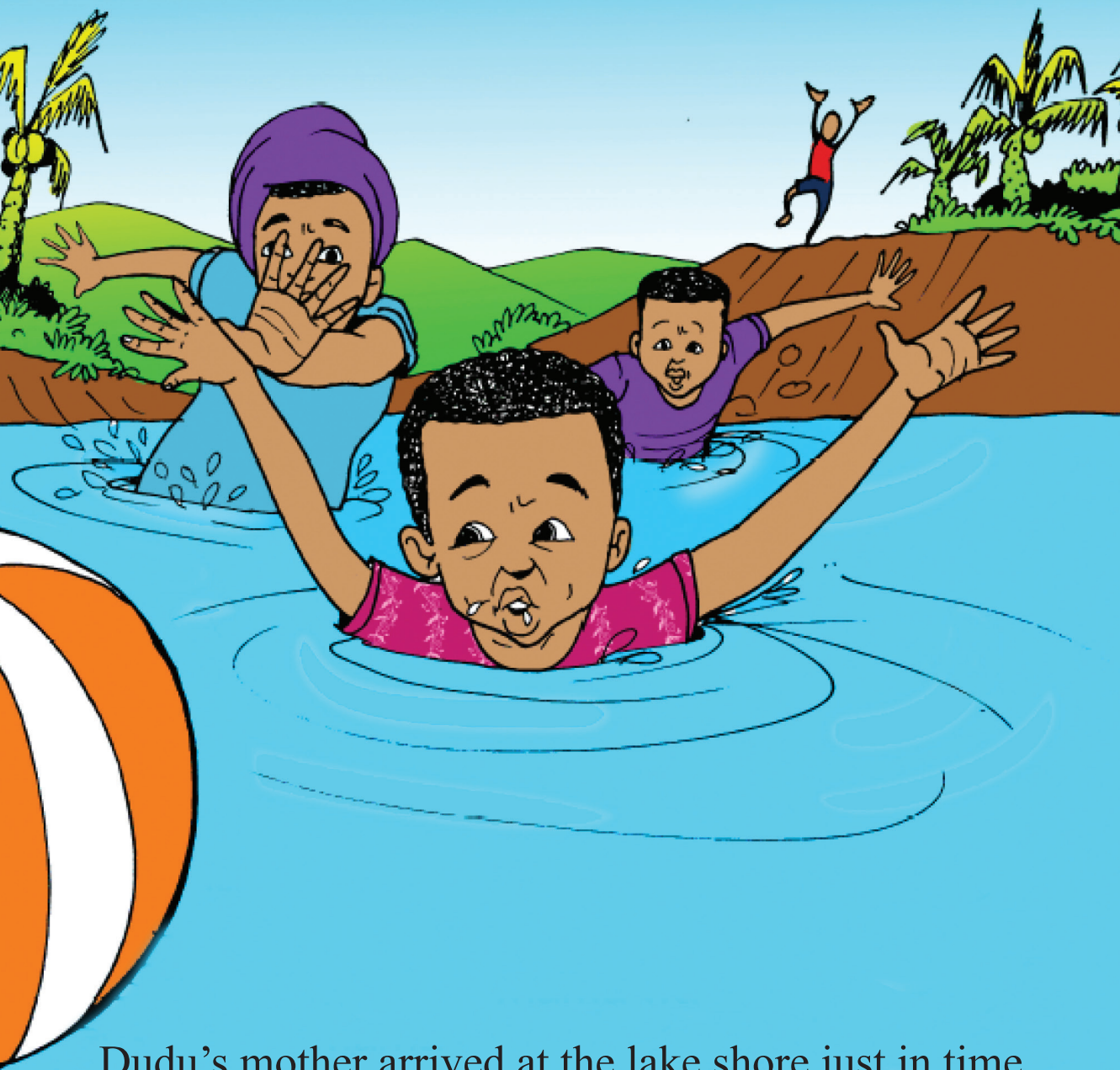
Without waiting for anybody to help him grab it, Pusi ran after the ball right into the deep, wide waters. The ball floated away him and continued going far into the middle of the water. Whenever she tried to grab it, the water would carry the ball, and she started to drown.



Dudu did not know what to do and he said, “Oh, my God! She is going to drown!” He looked here and there and did not see anyone that he knew. He then ran very fast as if he was in a hundred-meter race, and he shouted loudly.



He went on calling for help, crying out so much and saying, “Mummy! Mummy! Come to our rescue!” Among those who were there, not a single person was able to swim and rescue Pusi. Then, Dudu’s cry for help reached his parent.



Dudu's mother arrived at the lake shore just in time and said, "Don't worry, we shall rescue her." Dudu said, "Heehh! Mama, hurry up quick, quick lest she drowns!" They then swam quickly and found that she had not sunk very deep. They held her arm and swam towards the shore pulling her.



They then pulled Pusi out of the water. They helped her to spit up the bad water she had swallowed, and she came back to life. Dudu's mother advised her on how to behave when at the lake shore as well as at other large bodies of water. She, too, agreed that she would not throw herself into water before she knew how to swim.



From that very evening, the friendship between Pusi and Dudu grew strong. Pusi thanked Dudu for calling people to rescue her before she drowned. Dudu's parent was also happy because of the way the two children loved each other.

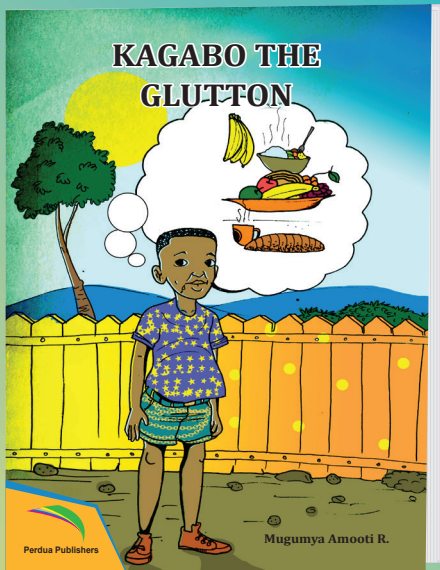
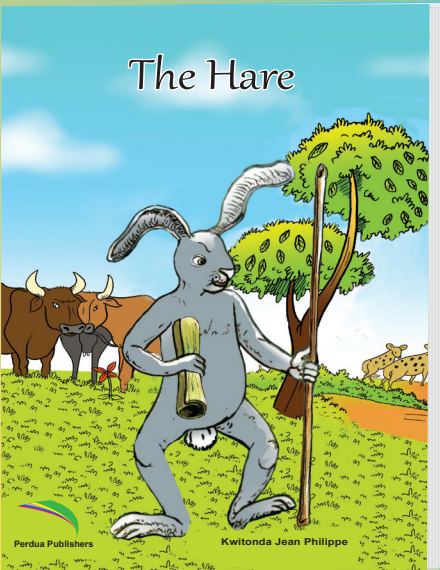
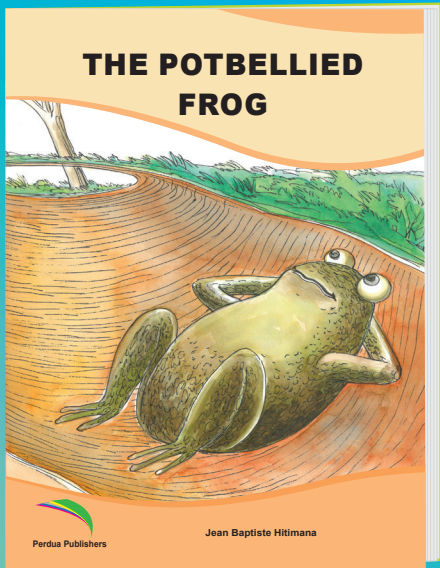
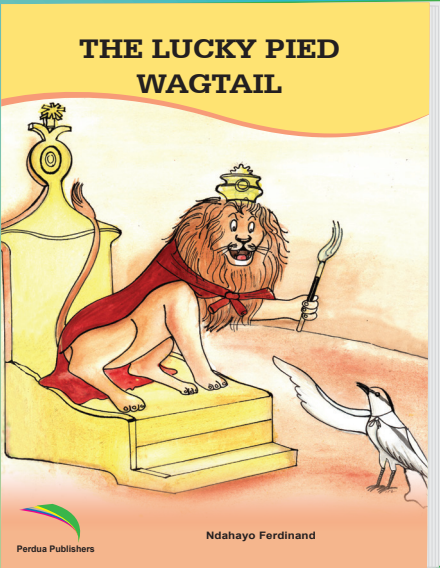


After the incident her parents decided to send their children to learn how to swim. Dudu practiced with other children so that she could become very good at swimming. From then, they spent the rest of their holidays learning how to swim.



Early in the morning, they would approach the water without any fear. Dudu knew how to swim well while Pusi knew how to conduct herself so that she would not fall into the water and drown again. Pusi will never forget those holidays. They were very nice because they enjoyed themselves and found so much joy!





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