

## Welcome

Hello, warmest of greetings from our cozy library. We really had to invest in a heater or frozen would not have remained just the title of a storybook adored by children! It is our hope that you are warm and not sneezing and making frequent gulps of medicine. Children are flocking to the library in droves and we are absolutely delighted, it is our sincerest hope that your child takes advantage of the library to do homework, research assignments and keep out of mischief as they will be too busy sucking in knowledge from our lovely collection. To those who are as obsessed about African writers as we are, please drop by the library and check out our newest additions and the Children's reading challenge. Once again, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your continued support. Enjoy your read!!



ECD pupils at Helena completing puzzles

## ***STORY OF THE MONTH: A TALE OF DISTINCTIONS***

There is a Nigerian proverb which says each man claims the drum from his village sounds the loudest. We however believe that, if indeed the drum from your village bangs the loudest, then by all means celebrate it. For three years running now we have been having students from the National University of Science and Technology (NUST) studying Library and Information sciences come and intern with us on their attachment year, and we submit to you that, we must be doing something right!

First it was Chiedza Gumbo, then Alice Parakokwa then Ruwarashe Mutape and now a new lady has just joined the team. It is heartwarming to report that for their attachment/ third year results they all got distinctions! Yes distinctions....they passed their attachment reports with top marks. They all left indelible marks on ZimLibrary.

Their lecturers have given us glowing reports of these young women in their final year. Perhaps this justifies the old adage that "Dynamites come in small packages."



Chiedza -Student Intern 2014-2015



Alice- Student intern 2015-2016

Ruwarashe- Student intern 2016-2017

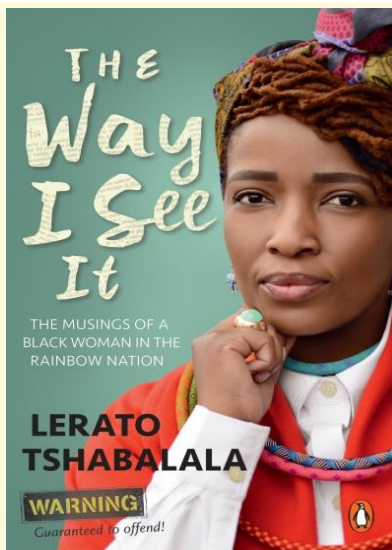
**Book Review: *The Way I see it: The musings of a black woman in the rainbow nation*- Lerato Tshabalala**

We all have different thoughts, if ever someone were to open our minds and read the stuff there, I'm sure serious changes would take place, this might include but not limited to, assassination threats and attempts, locking up in a mental institution and a surge in both admirers and haters.

In her book **The Way I See It: The musings of a black woman in the rainbow nation**, Lerato did exactly that. She wrote a book which was essentially letting us go through her mind and oh boy what was in there...

Lerato addresses a variety of issues from her perspective in a witty, humorous, unapologetic, kind of way. The book is written, right on the cover that it is guaranteed to offend and she warns the reader that there will be a lot of cussing, which well was a bit too much, but she had placed a warning so it was easy to handle.

True to her claim that the book is guaranteed to offend, there is a chapter where she explains why she would rather hire a white person than a black one *"You see, white people sign contracts, give invoices and don't usually leave without finishing the job. Facts are facts. Y'all might be mad, my people, but you know I ain't lying."*



*Now don't get me wrong, I'm not saying every black service provider is dodgy – not at all. But sadly, the majority of our people are chancers and don't give a damn about customer service."* Well, this will surely ruffle some feathers. She writes in a conversational funny tone that you feel like she is talking to you and you can't help laughing.

Perhaps one of the most honest and interesting chapters is when she wrote about the different people found in most families. I found myself giving names to almost all the types of family members she highlighted, from the gossipy aunty to the cousin who will always be borrowing money from you each and every time you meet, oh and of course that cousin you can't trust with the keys to anything.

The book is made up of seventeen chapters, each dealing with a different topic. In as much as the story is the musings of a black woman in South Africa, the book will resonate a lot of black Africans on the continent.

## June 2017 Highlights



Our reader of the month is Blessing Gaston who read 12 books

The look on the pupils faces after completing a particularly difficult puzzle during the Reading club at Thornicroft Primary school (Left)

Imagining comfort! Reading should be enjoyable and what better way than when you are seating or lying comfortably on a specially designed cushion. (Right)



**Thank You!**

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