

GR 12 GEDIG 9

Die nuwe kind

Translation

The new child

- 1 Our eyes pin you in your tracks:
- 2 the new child here in our class.
- 3 In our school uniform, with our teacher,
- 4 your hair cut according to the rules.

- 5 “Hector Sobukwe,” we hear your name,
- 6 “a royal child” – even though you’re shy.
- 7 Timidly you nod, as if you’re thanking us
- 8 and then sit quietly at your desk.

- 9 From a Tupperware container, as it should be,
- 10 you eat your slices of bread at break,
- 11 but under a tree, alone
- 12 you then go and stand and dream.

- 13 In the art class your pen becomes a mast,
- 14 you hoist picture sails from your ribcage,
- 15 you sail over white paper
- 16 into the future, still far from here ...