

ZINDZI, ZAZI & ZIWELENE  
MANDELA

SEAN  
QUALLS

# GRANDDAD MANDELA



*Mandela*  
LEGACY



One day, Zazi and Ziwelene were playing at Grandma Zindzi's house when they found a photograph. It was someone they remembered very well.



"Look, Grandma!" said Zazi. "We found a picture of Grandad Mandela. Can you tell us about him again?"

"Of course," Grandma Zindzi replied. "As you know, Grandad Mandela was my father, but he went to jail when I was only eighteen months old."



"Why did Grandad go to jail?" asked Zazi.

"He went to jail because he was fighting against apartheid. Apartheid was a law in South Africa that separated black people and white people, and said that white people were better. Grandad was fighting for us all to be equal.

You know like we say, 'I Love You Lots Like Jelly Tots?' We are different colors but we all taste the same?"

"Uh-huh," said Zazi.

"That's what Grandad Mandela was fighting for."



“Did Grandad have to have his birthday in prison?” asked Ziwelene.

“Yes, but he wasn’t allowed to have a party. We had to celebrate it for him outside. Big Mummy still had their wedding cake, which they never had time to cut when they got married.



Every year on his birthday, she would bring it out, light a candle and say a prayer.”



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The Old Brewery, 6 Blundell Street, London N7 9BH, United Kingdom.

T (0)20 7700 6700 • F (0)20 7700 8066 • www.QuartoKnows.com

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**Nelson Mandela** was born in 1918 in the Transkei, South Africa. He became famous for his long struggle for freedom for his people from the government-run system of apartheid, which meant that white and black people had to be separate. His protests against the government eventually led to his imprisonment for 27 years. After his release, he sat down at a table with members of the government to work on a peaceful solution to the fighting, and—along with President de Klerk—won the Nobel Prize for Peace. As the first black President of South Africa, he dismantled apartheid, believing—like Archbishop Desmond Tutu—that South Africa was a “rainbow nation,” with people of all races and colors working together. Nelson Mandela died in 2013, but remains an inspiration to people around the world today.

