

brings you ...

# THE SIYAGRUVA SCENE

SIYAGRUVA CATALOGUE 2023



# SERIES OVERVIEW

Each story revolves around The Siyagruva Scene, a dance studio in Claremont, Cape Town. 'Siyagruva' means 'We are dancing', so the young people learn the art of dancing: cha-cha, samba, tango, waltz and even kwaito and whatever else is new. Each book is written by a different author, so teens are able to view Siyagruva through diverse lenses.

The Siyagruva series focuses on issues that are present in an adolescent's life, such as racial and religious discrimination, people with mental health challenges and physical disabilities, living with HIV/Aids, teenage pregnancy, drugs, sexual orientation and over-protective parents.

The characters are recognisable. Wacky Brunette dyes her hair a different colour each week, dance queen Zadie is a proud virgin, shy Rashaad wrestles with his sexuality. So you get to know them well.

## A FEW FACTS ABOUT THE SIYAGRUVA SERIES

- This series is suitable for teenagers from ages 12 to 18
- Easy readers in English as a 1st, 2nd or 3rd language
- Every title in this series is self-contained and there is no specific order in which the series needs to be read
- Stories vary in urban/rural settings, and in geographical locations
- Storylines, plots, themes, and issues dealt with are contemporary, southern African, real and relevant to the target audience

*This series for South African teenagers captures a local flavour while dealing with the issues that face young South Africans. Through the Siyagruva characters and events, adolescents are able to explore the very real challenges that face them.*

## TITLES COMING SOON!!

- *B-BOYS, BRAAIS AND BRAZIL*
- *BRAIN GLITCH*
- *DANCE WITH THE DARK*
- *BOLLYWOOD SHOOT*
- *WAYS TO SAY GOODBYE*
- *THE SIYASIMON'S TOWN CHOO-CHOO*

# NEW TITLES IN THIS SERIES



## WHATSAPP, YOU GUYS?

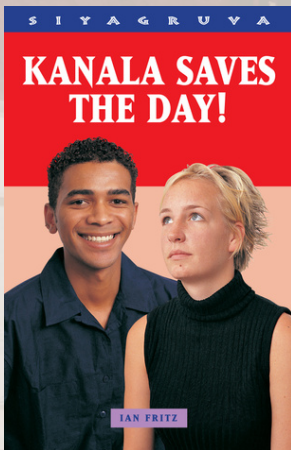
by Anne Schlebusch

What's happening to Brunette? Bruises and a sore body ... the Siyagrivers are worried about her. Also, something is bugging Mncedisi – and it's his livelihood that's at stake.

*'This is when it really matters to have friends who care about you.'* – A reader

**English:** 978-1-4856-4002-8

**isiZulu:** 978-1-4856-4141-4



## KANALA SAVES THE DAY!

by Ian Fritz

Things are not going well for Regan. Something's wrong. With Shelley by his side, he bravely decides he needs to seek help. Together they experience what it's like to go to a public clinic. Regan tackles his problem head-on, but it's the support of his fellow-Siyagrivers that pulls him through.

*'You never know when a mental-health issue is going to happen, even to someone as strong and outgoing as Regan.'* – A Reader

**English:** 978-1-4856-4004-2



## I GOTTA BE ME!

by Robin Malan

Regan has been away for a whole term – and has he got some stories to tell! Brunette has an exciting audition to go to, but it turns out to be a day from hell. Do they get through these experiences – and stay themselves?

*'The Gruvers never try to be anyone else, they know who they are.'* – A reader

**English:** 978-1-4856-4006-6



## DANCING QUEEN

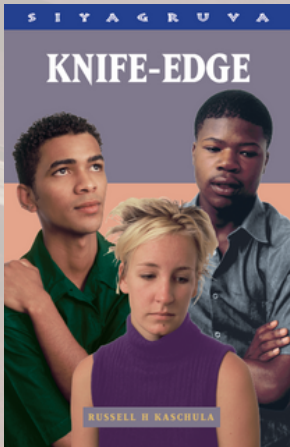
by Karen Jeynes and Robin Jeynes

A new dancer joins the Siyagriva Scene for a short time. There's a bit of rivalry between Brunette and the new girl Darcy. That's not major, but her presence causes a problem with the hip-hop competition they've entered for. It's not her fault, but ... what's the solution? And how is Rashaad's issue with his parents resolved?

*'I never guessed the ending – I was blown away!'* – A reader

**English:** 978-1-4856-4005-9

# NEW TITLES IN THIS SERIES



## **KNIFE-EDGE**

by Russell H Kaschula

Regan's attempt at living the rural life doesn't work out, but can he handle all the temptations of city life?

When he lands in trouble, can Shelley and Mncedisi help him?

And can the Siyagruvers get it together for the SADC competition?

'I'm so pleased they got to Mauritius' – A reader

**English:** 978-1-4856-4007-3



## **GO FIGURE!**

by Robin Malan

Something strange happens to Thabiso while watching a performance of Macbeth. The Siyagruvers are taking part in the annual Mardi Gras event, and Thabiso discovers that something is not as it should be. It all becomes quite dangerous ... Can they work together to come out on top? Or will they be defeated?

'I didn't like the scary night-time atmosphere – but it was nice and exciting and I turned page after page ...' – A reader

**ENGLISH:** 978-1-4856-4139-1

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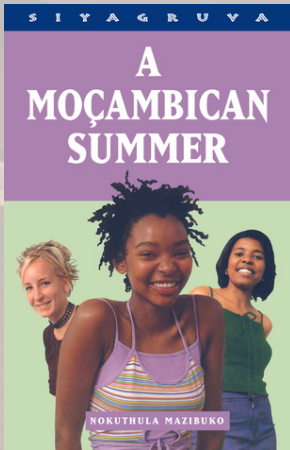
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# TITLES IN STOCK



## A MOCAMBICAN SUMMER

by Nokuthula Mazibuko

Brunette, Shelley and Samantha hit the glam life of the clubs, the fashion shoots, the offers of contracts that all exist in Maputo. Their holiday holds out the promise of great things for everyone. And then there's... reality.

*'I felt sorry for all three of the Siyagrivers, but then, in the end, things kind of worked out.'* - A reader

**English:** 978-1-86928-518-0

**isiXhosa:** 978-1-4856-3001-2

**isiZulu:** 978-1-4856-2933-7



## BEING YOUNG

by Duane Jethro

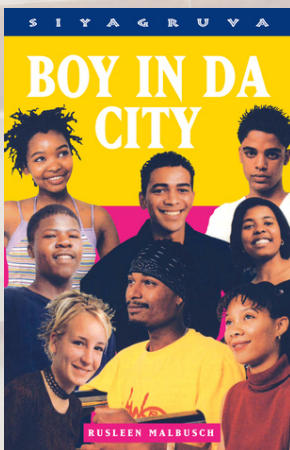
Things are looking good for the Gruvers, but there's also a serious side to some parts of young life. Mncedisi finds himself in a really heavy situation. Samantha gets a sharp lesson and is made to take a hard look at herself. And Brunette decides on independence.

*'I could see this coming from Samantha - but I was amazed at Mncedisi, of all people!'* - A reader

**English:** 978-1-86928-519-7

**isiXhosa:** 978-1-4856-2186-7

**isiZulu:** 978-1-4856-2963-4



## BOY IN DA CITY

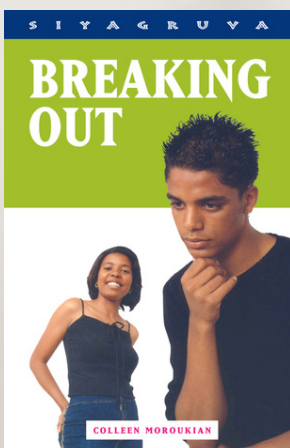
by Rusleen Malbusch

The Siyagrivers have never had to handle anything as tricky as this! What do you do with a refugee boy who has no one to look after him and nowhere to go? Everyone has to pull together and help young Equiano.

*'What's wrong with us that we can't all be welcoming and caring towards African foreigners? Why do people call them amakwerekwere?'* - A reader.

**English:** 978-1-86928-347-6

**isiZulu:** 978-1-4856-4146-9



## BREAKING OUT

by Colleen Moroukian

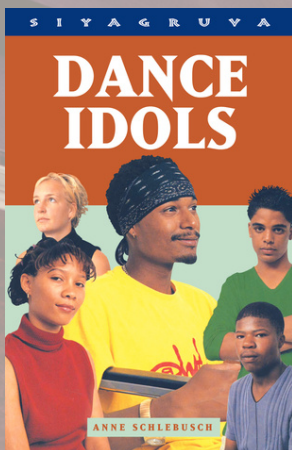
Rashaad is going through a tough time. His religion, his culture, even his sexuality... who and what is he? Samantha and her friend Nolwazi are playing a dangerous double-game with their parents. Into their lives comes The Siyagriva Scene – and things start happening!

*'Rashaad faces reality and becomes a man. Samantha learns to think for herself.'* - A reader

**English:** 978-1-919876-86-3

**isiZulu:** 978-1-4856-2652-7

# TITLES IN STOCK



## DANCE IDOLS

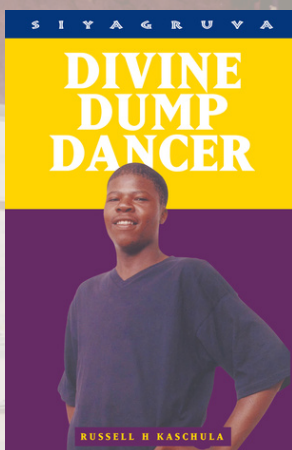
by Anne Schlebusch

A nationwide competition to find some young dance idols! Who's going to enter, who's going to pull out, and why? And who's the least likely person in the Siyagruva Scene to win it? There are surprises all along the way in this Siyagruva story.

*'It was just as exciting as watching idols on TV - I really want my favourite to win.'*  
- A Reader

**English:** 978-1-86928-345-2

**isiZulu:** 978-1-4856-2653-4



## DIVINE DUMP DANCER

by Russell H Kaschula

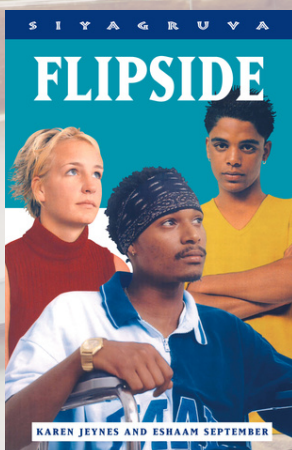
From the dumps to divining, from despair to dancing! This happens to Mncedisi when he and his mother come to the city. Some people are called to fulfil their role and responsibility to family and community.

*'Could you travel the journey Mncedisi has to? He's not a quitter, he has courage and strength - and he's a great dancer' - A reader*

**English:** 978-1-919876-89-4

**isiXhosa:** 978-1-86928-426-8

**isiZulu:** 978-1-4856-2780-7



## FLIPSIDE

by Karen Jaynes and Eeshaam September

What's it like coming into a well-established group? Rashaad's cousin finds out when she joins the Siyagruva Scene. Also, why is Thabiso behaving as if he wants to get out of the Scene? What's going on?

*'Introduce a new person into your circle of close friends and you certainly see the flipside of things - but the Siyagruvers always manage to work things out.'* - A Reader

**English:** 978-1-86928-582-1



## FLYING HIGH

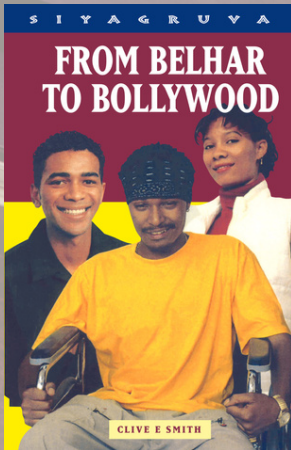
by Russell H Kaschula

Two pairs of Siyagruva dancers are whisked off to the United States – maybe to dance in Hollywood and Washington! But there are new experiences to be coped with first – romance for Rashaad and Zadie, and snow for Mncedisi!

*'It makes me wish I was lucky enough to fly off to the States! Meanwhile, I'll just dream ...'* - A reader

**English:** 978-1-86928-344-5

# TITLES IN STOCK



## FROM BELHAR TO BOLLYWOOD

by Clive E Smith

A famous Indian choreographer comes calling at the Siyagruva Scene. Three new dancers join the group, and cause some ripples. Regan is forced to admit something he's kept quiet about for a long time. Thabiso finds a soul mate. And a whole new world opens up for Raymond.

*'This is the kind of excitement you only dream about. You never think it's going to happen.'*  
- A reader

**English:** 978-1-86928-577-7



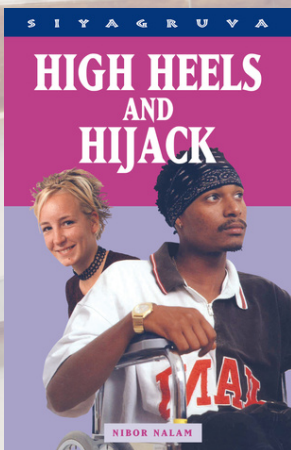
## GIRL GOES MISSING

by Clive E Smith

The police can't solve the kidnapping cases. They bring in crack detective Botes. Then Shelley can't cope at home, and gets into a tight spot. Not even Siyagruva friends can help her. In the end, Shelley gets what she wants – or, does she?

*'I finished it under my duvet, with a torch! But Shelley is wrong. I would never do to my parents what she did to hers.'* - A reader

**English:** 978-1-86928-346-9



## HIGH HEELS AND HIJACK

by Robin Malan

Of course, Shelley knows better than her mother! Or does she? Tonight is a big night for her – but it could end in disaster. Nothing gets Thabiso down! But what happens the night he's not in his wheelchair? Can his wits pull him through?

*'Young people deal with hate, jealousy, friendship and danger every day - and comedy.'*  
- A reader

**English:** 978-1-919876-87-0

**isiXhosa:** 978-1-4856-2573-5



## IN THE FAST LANE

by Nokuthula Mazibuko

Remember, there are people affected by HIV as well as people infected by HIV. This is something Brunette and Samantha have no reason to worry about, until they go on holiday to the home of Brunette's mother in Soweto. Suddenly they're living with HIV and have to learn – quick!

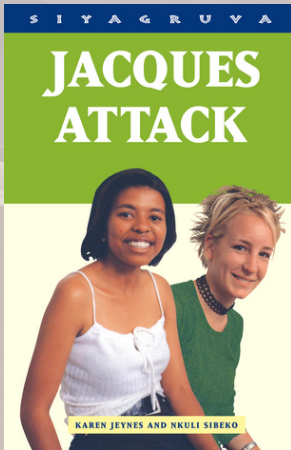
*'We can't deny these things, they happen, and we have to know how to cope.'* - A reader

**English:** 978-1-919876-99-3

**isiXhosa:** 978-1-86928-425-1

**isiZulu:** 978-1-4856-2764-7

# TITLES IN STOCK



## JACQUES ATTACK

by Karen Jeynes and Nkuli Sibeko

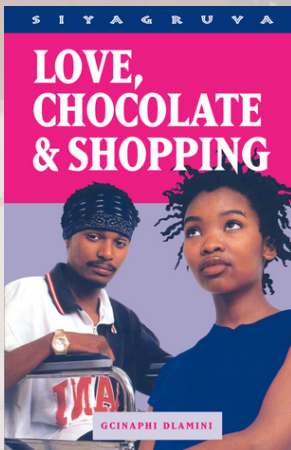
A glam god of a dance champion from overseas enters the Siyagruvers' lives. Will some long-standing friendships survive this? The whole idea of student exchanges comes into focus for Samantha, but she finds that her parents have a very different idea from hers!

*'The thing about life is, sometimes you don't even know you're learning useful lessons!'*

- A reader

**English:** 978-1-86928-439-8

**isiZulu:** 978-1-4856-2988-7



## LOVE, CHOCOLATES & SHOPPING

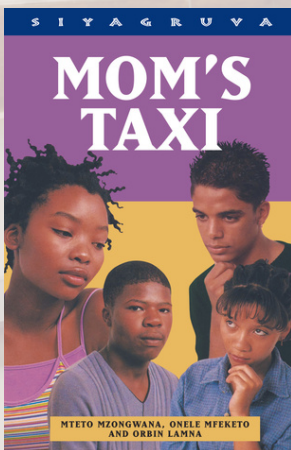
by Gcinaphi Dlamini

A visiting celebrity dancer throws the Siyagruvers into confusion! 'What can I wear?', 'Will it still fit me?' and 'Who can afford a new dress?' become real questions – what are the answers? In the meantime, love is in the air – Thabiso, Shelley, Brunette's dad – but not always happily.

*'My experiences, exactly! I know just what they are going through.'* - A reader

**English:** 978-1-919876-98-6

**isiZulu:** 978-1-4856-2969-6



## MOM'S TAXI

by Mteto Mzongwana, Onele Mfeketo and Robin Malan

When a girl calls Brunette a 'coconut', the Siyagruvers suddenly notice the difference between life in the suburbs and life in the townships or Cape Flats. They have to do something about it – but what? And, hey, how come Shelley's mom (of all people) is riding around the townships as if it's her turf?

*'I don't think this problem has been tackled in our school yet. It should be.'* - A reader

**English:** 978-1-86928-342-1

**isiXhosa:** 978-1-86928-427-5



## NAMIBIAN KWAITO

by Colleen Moroukian and Robin Malan

The Siyagruvers go dancing the length and breadth of Namibia. That's the definition of paradise, right? So why are there hassles? What's with Mncedisi? Why's Brunette suddenly off-centre? And what's up with Thabiso, of all people?

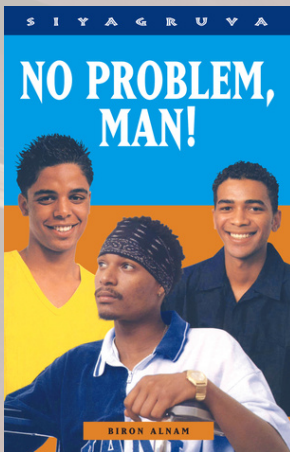
*'Even in the best of circumstances, things sometimes do go wrong. It's how you cope that really matters.'* - A reader

**English:** 978-1-86928-440-4

**isiZulu:** 978-1-4856-2966-5



# TITLES IN STOCK



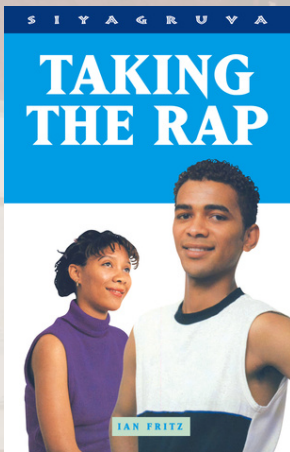
## NO PROBLEM, MAN!

by Robin Malan

Thabiso never talks about his accident – can't he face up to it? Rashaad may be accepting what he is sexually, but what is he socially? He tries a few experiments. Regan is caught between his old gang life and the movie world!

*'Who says males don't have problems? And they're not all macho ones about rugby and girlfriends.'* - A reader

**English:** 978-1-86928-343-8



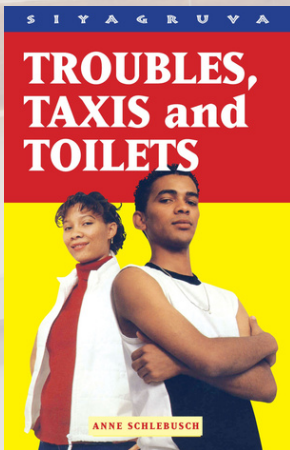
## TAKING THE RAP

by Ian Fritz

Regan fools around once too often, and lands in trouble. But he handles it, does some hard and messy work, and learns a few things about discarding useless prejudices and making new friends. Meanwhile, Zadie and her family face their own crisis.

*'It's true that rap music can bring people together. I think Regan is a star!'* - A reader

**English:** 978-1-86928-419-0



## TROUBLES, TAXIS and TOILETS

by Anne Schlebusch

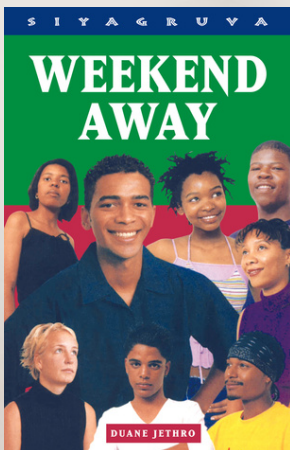
Why is Zadie spending so much time riding up-front in a taxi? Should Regan keep waiting for her at the dance studio? Is this what he got out of the gangs for? What will happen when the police sniffer dogs come to school?

*'This is what's happening right now. I know people like this in my school'* - A reader.

**English:** 978-1-919876-88-7

**isiXhosa:** 978-1-4856-2238-3

**isiZulu:** 978-1-4856-3113-2



## WEEKEND AWAY

by Duane Jethro

The Siyagrivers have some community work to do on the Cape Flats, and so they spend the weekend at Regan's flat – and they find the place rocks! They're into things they never knew happened in their city. But ... will Shelley's mom find out?

*'You can't keep these manne quiet for a minute - they're always up to something!'* - A reader

**English:** 978-1-86928-420-6