Eating from One Pot

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The book began in 1999 when I first visited the shoe factories of Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal. I was especially shocked by the working conditions of the women who were working in Manchester Road, an informal manufacturing area. I returned again and again to KwaZulu-Natal after that. I learnt of the many women and men who had lost their jobs in the footwear, textile and clothing factories and who were now trying to survive in their households. This shifted the focus of my research from the factory floor to the household and the community.

A number of individuals (often unbeknown to them) and institutions have played a role in the conception and realisation of this book.

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‘Ningadinwa nangomuso...ukwanda kwaliwa umthakathi.’