

The Star newspaper falls for a fictional brutal death story told on Twitter

By Myolisi Sikupela 13 Jan 2016

On 8 January 2016, a Twitter user by the name of January 21st (@JustKhuthi) began tweeting a 70-tweet long story about a gruesome killing of a girl named Kamogelo Peterson (Kamo).



Image source © Memeburn

The first tweet was on 8 January 2016 and the rest followed on 10 January 2016. Twitter users were aghast and offered their sympathies.

The handle @JustKhuthi retweeted some of the reactions using the hashtag #RIPKamo. *The Star* newspaper picked up on the story and published it as news. It has now emerged that the story is a work of fiction.

Looking at the story, one can find storytelling traditions that hint at the story being fake and not a story told by someone who has just lost a good friend...

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