

LIAB thiab KOOJ SIB
NTAUS
(NTSHIAB thiab NTSHAUS)

THE MONKEYS AND THE
GRASSHOPPERS
(From Njia and Njo)



-A HMONG FOLK TALE IN
HMONG AND BEGINNING
ESL : LEVEL 1

Monkeys and The Grasshoppers; Level 1 (Liab
Johnson Charles

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Hmong Folk Tales

Retold in ESL

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MINNESOTA CURRICULUM SERVICES CENTER

3554 White Bear Ave. White Bear Lake, MN 55110

(612) 770-3943

800-662-9024

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Story Teller: May Yang
Written Hmong: Phoua Thao and Se Yang
Translation: Phoua Thao
ESL Adaptation: Ava Dale Johnson
Editor: Charles Johnson
Illustrations: Xiong Lia Vang

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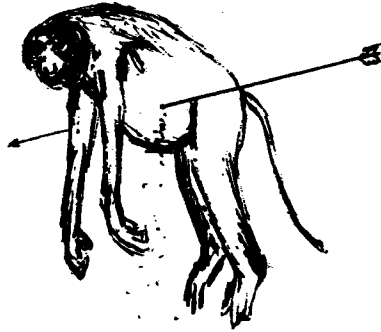
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Liab mus pem dawm kooj.



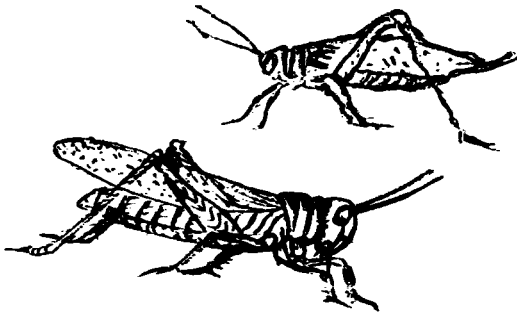
The monkeys went
to grasshopper hill.

Liab hais tias,
"Kooj,
nej tua peb ib tug poj liab
tuag lawm."



They said,
"You grasshoppers!
You killed our cousin."

Kooj teġ tias,
"Peb tsis tau tua."



"We did not!"
the grasshoppers said.

Liab hais tias,
"Nej tau tua kawg.
Peb yuav nrog nej sib ntaus!"



"Yes, you did.
And we're going to fight you!"
the monkeys yelled.

Kooj hais tias,
"Tseem ntxov hwv.
Tos ib me pliag
kom hnuv tuaj siab
kom sov sov tso."



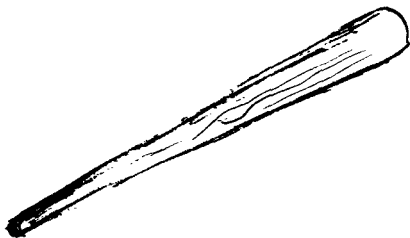
The grasshoppers said,
"It's early in the morning.
Wait a while.
The sun will come up
and warm us."

Ces liab txawm tos.
Tos tos hnuv tuaj siab siab.
Sov sov kooj lawm
ces kooj dhia mus
rau saum liab taub hau.



So the monkeys waited.
The sun came up.
The grasshoppers got warm.
Then the grasshoppers jumped
on top of the monkeys' heads.

Cov liab npau taws heev.
Liab nga
tej niag rab qws loj loj
tuaj ntaus kooj, tua kooj.



The monkeys were angry.
They got big sticks.
They wanted to kill
the grasshoppers.

Liab sib sib zog ntaus kooj.



They hit hard. Very hard.

Tab sis liab ntaus tsis tau kooj.
Kooj twb xub dhia lawm.



But they didn't kill
the grasshoppers.
The grasshoppers jumped
away.

Cov liab
rov ntaus raug liab taub hau xwb.



They hit other monkeys
on the head.

Liab sib ntaus liab ces liab
tuag ib tug.
Tuag ob tug.
Tuag peb tug.
Plaub tug,
 tsib tug,
 rau tug,
 xya tug,
 yim tug....



One monkey died.
Two monkeys died.
Three monkeys died.
Four, five, six, seven, eight.
.....

Ib niag liab loj loj
ntsia ntsia cov tuag tag lawm
ces nws txawm tias,
"Ua cas yuav ua li?
Cov tuag tag lawm
ais tshuav kuv xwb."



One big monkey looked
at all the other monkeys.
"What happened?" he asked.
"All the other monkeys
are dead but me."

Ces nws txawm muab kooj ntes noj,
ntes noj.



Then he ate and ate
and ate and ate
grasshoppers.

Nws noj noj kooj ntau ntau
ces nws txawm cia li tuag lawm!



He ate many grasshoppers,
and he died!

Hmong Folk Tales

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How We Got Grain and Meat

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(for adult programs)

Each story appears in Hmong-English and English-only editions, on both Beginning 1 and Beginning 2 levels. Those marked * appear together in an Advanced level English-only reader.

