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The Beginning Of The World (How  
We Got Grain And Meat): Hmong  
Folk Tale In English And Hmong  
Johnson Charles

THAUM NTUJ TSIM TEB RAUC

THE BEGINNING

OF THE WORLD

How We Got

Grain and Meat

in  
Begin

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THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD:  
How We Got Grain and Meat

A Hmong Folk Tale  
in Hmong and  
Beginning ESL  
Level 1

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THAUM NTUJ TSIM TEB RAUG

THE BEGINNING

OF THE WORLD:

How We Got

Grain and Meat

Luj Tub yog thawj tug txiv neej.



Lou Tou was the first man.

Ntxhi Chiv yog nws tus poj niam.



See Chee was his wife.

Nkawd tawm ntawm ib phab toj los.



They came out of a mountain.

Nkawd nga tau ib lub paj noob hlis  
nrog nkawd los.



They brought one flower  
with them.

Nkawd noj cov noob paj  
noob hlis ntawd.



They ate its seeds.



Muaj ib hnub Ntxhi Chiv hais tias,  
"Ntsia saib, wb cov noob paj  
tshuav tsis ntau lawm.  
Taig kis, wb yuav tsis muaj  
ib lub noob li lawm."



One day, See Chee said, "Look,  
we don't have many seeds now.  
Tomorrow, we won't have any."

Luj Tub hais tias,  
"Tsis txhob txhawj.

Wb mam li muab lub puav cog."  
Ces nkawd txawm muab ob peb lub cog.



Lou Tou said, "Don't worry.  
We can plant some seeds."  
So they planted some seeds.

Tiam sis tuaj ib tsob xwb.



Only one plant grew.

Luj Tub hais tias,  
"Ntsia saib!  
Cua nplawm nplawm wb tsob paj.  
Cov noob zeeg poob  
ya tag huv tib si lawm."



Lou Tou said, "Look!  
The wind is blowing our plant.  
Its seeds are all gone!"

Nws hais li ntawd yog kawg.  
Cua tau tshuab cov noob  
tau ya mus deb heev  
txog puag saum tej roob  
thiab puag nram tej kwj ha.



He was right.  
The wind blew the seeds  
far away--  
to the mountains,  
to the valleys.

Cov noob txawm tuaj kaus  
rau saum roob thiab nram kwj ha.



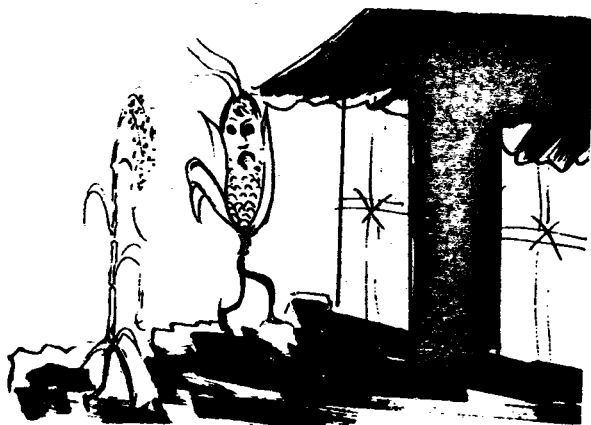
In the mountains and valleys,  
the seeds grew.

Ces cov noob  
txawm rov qab los rau ntawm nkawd  
lub tsev.



Then they came back  
to Lou Tou and  
See Chee's house.

Cov noob hu hais tias,  
"Niam thiab txiv,  
Peb los txog rau ntawm no lawm,  
qhib peb qhov rooj os."



They said, "Open the door,  
Papa and Mama. Here we are!"

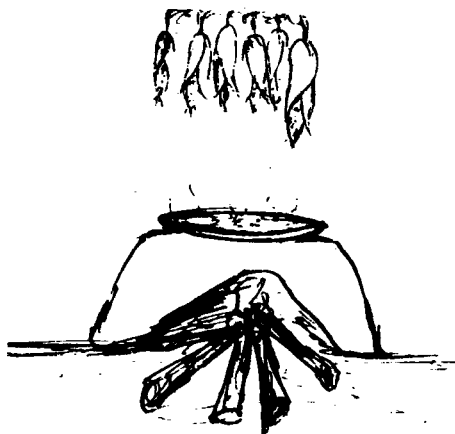


Noob plej los los,  
noob pob kws los los,  
noob yam ub yam no los txhij txhua.



Corn came. And rice came.  
Many kinds of grain came.

Noob pob kws hais tias,  
"Muab kuv coj mus dai  
ze rau ntawm qhov cub."



The corn said,  
"Hang me up near the fire."

Noob nplej hais tias,  
"Hiab ib lub pob tawb rau kuv."



The rice said,  
"Make a basket for me."

Luj Tub thiab nws poj niam  
muab pob kws coj mus dai.



So Lou Tou and his wife  
hung up the corn.

Nkawd hiab ib lub pob tawb rau nplej.  
Cov noob qoob noob loo hais tias,  
"Ua li ntawd mas yog lawm.  
Peb muaj lus zoo siab."



They made a basket  
for the rice.  
"That's right,"  
said the grains.  
"Now we are happy."

Tom gab no,  
Ntxhi Chiv muaj ib plab me nyuam.



Later,  
See Chee got pregnant  
She was tired.  
She wanted some meat to eat.

Luj Tub hais tias,  
"Txhob txhawj,  
kuv yuav rov lawm saum roob."

Ces nws txawm rov mus saum roob.



So Lou Tou said, "Don't worry.  
I'll go back to the mountain."  
Then he went back  
to the mountain.

Qhib qhov rooj ntawm phab toj.



And he opened the door.



Hu hais tias,  
    "Qaib aws, tawm los os!"  
Nws hu hais tias,  
    "Npua aws, tawm los!"  
Nws hu tias,  
    "Nyuj aws, tawm los os!"  
Thiab nws hu tias,  
    "Twam aws, tawm los!"



He called, "Chickens,  
                    COME OUT!"  
He called, "Pigs, COME OUT!"  
He called, "Cows, COME OUT!"  
And he called, "Buffaloes,  
                    COME OUT!"

Ces txhua yam tsiaj  
txawm tawm los.



And all the animals came out.

Kuv xav noog nej ib los.  
Tam si no peb puas muaj nplej  
thiab pob kws?

Yog, peb muaj.  
Peb puas muaj tsiaj muaj txhu?

Yog, peb muaj.  
Tej no lawv tawm qhov twg los?

Luj Tub yog tus yuav  
teb tau....



I want to ask you a question.  
Do we have rice and corn now?

Yes, we do.

Do we have animals now?

Yes, we do.

Where did they come from?

Lou Tou knows the answer...