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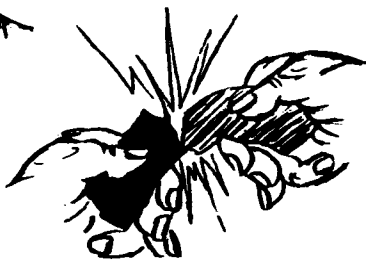
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SAUB thiab HLUAV TAWS

SHAO and HIS FIRE



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

Hmong Folk Tales

Retold in ESL

Series Editor:
Charles Johnson

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Published and distributed by
Linguistics Department
Macalester College
1600 Grand Avenue
St. Paul, Minn. 55105



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A Hmong Folk Tale
in Hmong
and Beginning ESL
Level 1

Charles Johnson
Editor

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This publication is funded in part
by the Northwest Area Foundation.

SAUB
THIAB HLUAV TAWS

SHAO
AND HIS FIRE



Saub paub tas txhua yam.

Nws nyob puag yav ntuj thaum ub.

Nws paub txhua yam lus.

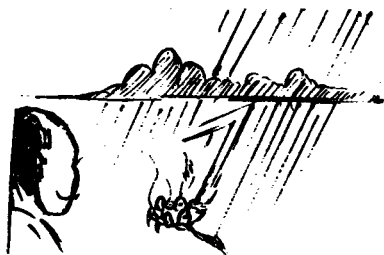


Shao knew everything.

He lived a long time ago.

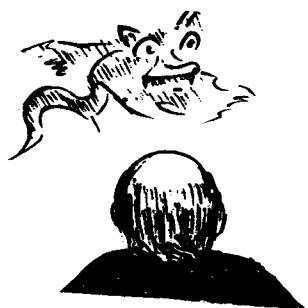
Shao spoke every language.

Nws nrog Xob tham tau.



He spoke with Thunder.

Nws nrog Zaj tham tau.



He spoke with Dragon.

Nws nrog Npua Teb tham tau.



He spoke with Wild Pig.

Nws nrog Dais thiab Tsov
tham tau.



He spoke with Bear and Tiger.

Tej ntawd yog nws tej phooj ywg.
Lawv nyob ua ke xwb.
Hnub twg los lawv sib tham.



These were his friends.
They lived together.
Every day,
they talked together.

Muaj ib hnuv Zaj hais tias,
"Kuv xav tau ib lub tsev.
Koj xav tau ib lub tsev.
Sawv daws ib leeg
xav tau ib lub tsev.
Peb yuav nyob ua ke
mus tas li tsis tau."



One day, Dragon said,
"I need a house.
You need a house.
Every animal needs a house.
We can't live together
all the time."

Tsov hais tias,
"Kuv nyiam nyob ua ke.
Tiam sis kuv tsis nyiam nyob ntsiag to.
Kuv nyiam ua kom muaj suab nrov.
Tiam sis kuv ua tsis tau.
Kuv lub suab loj hwy
yuav ua rau nej ntshai."



Tiger said,
"I like to live together.
But I don't like to be quiet.
I want to make noise.
But I can't.
My noise is very big.
It will make you afraid."

Cov phooj ywg teb tias,
"Aub! Peb tsis ntshai koj li.
Koj ua tsis tau lub suab
loj nrov heev."



The friends said,
"Oh, we aren't afraid of you.
You can't make
a very big noise."

Tsov hais tias,
"Nyob nov tos,
nej mam li pom mas!"
Ces Tsov nce rau pem roob lawm.
Nws nce mus puag saum ub.
Nws nyooj ua av nqeeg nkaws.
Nws rua qhov ncauj
loj loj ua pom kaus dawb vog.
Nws nges rov qab los
ces nws nug tias,
"Nej puas ntshai?"



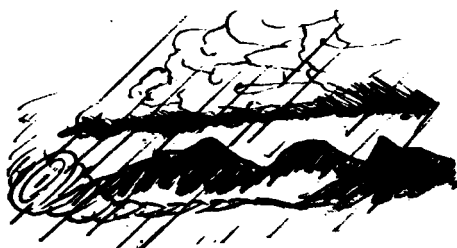
So Tiger said, "Wait and see."
And he went up the mountain.
He went up high.
He growled.
He shook the earth.
He opened his mouth
and he showed his teeth.
Then he came down again.
He asked, "Were you afraid?"

Zaj teb tias, "Tsis ntshai.
Kuv ua nkaus xwb
mas thiaj li yuav txaus ntshai.
Kuv nce mus pem roob.
Kuv ua kom ntuj dub nciab.
Kuv ua kom dej ntws lug
los nyab qhov txhia chaw.
Ua toj roob pob zom zaws los."



"No," answered Dragon.
"I am the scary one.
I will go up on the mountain.
I will make the sky black.
I will throw down water
 everywhere.
The mountain sides will fall."

Ces Zaj txawm nce rau pem roob lawm.
 Zaj mus ua ntuj tsaus nti,
 teb tsaus ntais.
 Nws ua dej ntws lug
 los nyab qhov txhia chaw.
 Toj roob pob cuag tus tsi nqis los mus.
 Ua dej mas ua kua av
 daj rhuv los mus xwb.



So Dragon went up
 on the mountain.
 He made the sky black.
 He threw down water
 everywhere.
 The mountain sides fell.
 And the river was mud.

Zaj nges los txog.
Zaj nug sawv daws tias,
"Nej puas ntshai?"



Then Dragon came down again.
He asked his friends,
"Were you afraid?"

Sawv daws teb hais tias,
"Tsis ntshai.
Ua nyuag nyob li ntawd xwb
peb tsis ntshai tej nyuag ntawd li."



"Oh, no," they answered.
"You did little things.
We're not afraid
of little things."

Ces Xob ho hais tias,
 "Kuv ua mas nej thiaj li yuav ntshai.
 Kuv nce mus puag pem roob.
 Kuv mus ua ntuj tsaus nciab, teb tsaus nti.
 Kuv ua ntoo dam sis dug los.
 Kuv yuav nthe nrov qeeg nkaws thoob ntuj.
 Kuv yuav ua kom txim taws
 ya liab vog ntawm nej tej qhov muag.
 Mas nej yuav ntshai xwb."



Then Thunder spoke. He said,
 "I will make you afraid.
 I will go up
 above the mountains.
 I will make the sky black.
 I will break the trees.
 I will make noise
 in all the sky.
 I will make lightning jump
 across it.
 I will throw lightning
 in your eyes.
 You will be afraid."

Ces Xob txawm nce mus puag pem roob lawm.
Nws mus ua ntuj tsaus nti,
teb tsaus ntais.
Nws ua ntoo dam nrov roo ntws los.
Nws nthu ua nrov thoob ntuj.
Nws tej niag teg ua hluav taws
ya liab vog saum ntuj
thiab ho tej niag teg ua hluav taws
ya liab vog ntawm
nws cov phooj ywg qhov muag.



So Thunder went up
 above the mountains.
He made the sky black.
He broke the trees.
He made noise in all the sky.
He made lightning jump
 across it.
And he threw lightning
 in his friends' eyes.

Ces Xob nges rov los txog.
Hws nug hais tias, "Nej puas ntshai?"
Sawv daws teb tias, "Tsis ntshai.
Peb yeej tsis ntshai kiag li."



Then he came down again.
"Were you afraid?" he asked.
"No," the animals answered.
"We weren't afraid at all."

Ces Saub hais tias,
"Yog li no ho cia kuv ua rau nej."
Sawv daws nug nws tias,
"Koj yuav ua li cas?"
Ces Saub hais tias,
"Ib, nej mus hlais ngeeb.
Ob, nej mus txiav ntoo.
Peb, ua ib lub tsev."



Then Shao said, "Well,
I can make you afraid."
"How?" asked his friends.
"First, cut some grass.
Second, cut some trees.
Third, build a house."

Ces sawv daws txawm mus hlais nqeeb,
mus txiav ntoo
los ces los ua tau ib lub tsev.



So the animals worked.
They built a house.

Saub hais rau lawv tias,
"Nej mus nyob hauv.
Xov phab ntsa
kom ntom nti thoob plaws rau.
Tsis txhob tseg qhov rooj
thiab tsis txhob tseg qhov rai li."

Ces cov tsiaj txawm nkag mus
nyob sab hauv tsev.
Lawv xov phab ntsa thoob plaws rau.
Lawv tsis tseg qhov rooj.
Lawv tsis tseg qhov rai li.



Then Shao said, "Go inside.
Close all the walls.
You won't have any windows.
You won't have any doors."

So the animals went
inside the house.
They closed all the walls.
They didn't have any windows.
They didn't have any doors.

Saub nyob sab nraud.
Saub hais tias,
"Nej nyob hauv tsev tag nrho lawm.
Nej tsis muaj qhov rooj.
Nej tsis muaj qhov rai.
Ua li nej puas ntshai?"

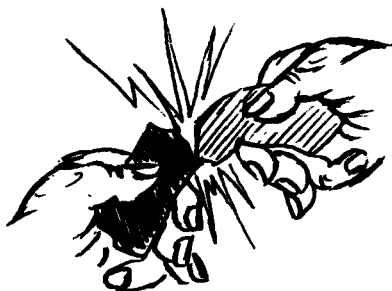


Shao was outside the house.
"Now," Shao said.
You are all inside the house.
You don't have any windows.
You don't have any doors.
Are you afraid?"

Nws cov phooj ywg teb tias,
"Tsis ntshai."

Ces Saub txawm txhuam ntais.
Ua nrov, rhej! rhej! rhej! no.

Ces nug tias, "Nej puas ntshai?"



His friends answered, "No."

Then Shao struck his flint.
It made a noise, ts! ts! ts!

"Are you afraid?"

Sawv daws teb tias, "Tsis ntshai.
Ua nyuag rhej! rhej! rhej!
nyob li ntawd xwb.
Mas peb yeej tsis ntshai kiag li."



"No," the friends said.
"We're not afraid
of a little noise,
ts! ts! ts!"

Saub txhuam ntais
zes taws kiah rau tw nqeeb.
Ces nug tias, "Nej puas ntshai?"



Then Shao lit the straw
and the wood.
"Are you afraid?" he asked.

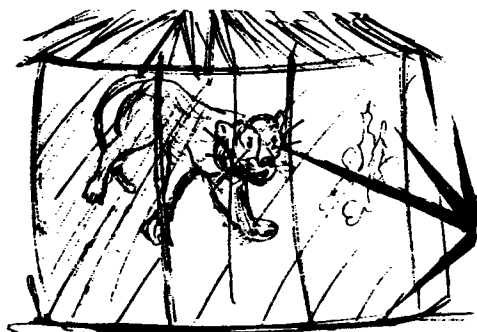
Cov phooj ywg teb tias,
"Tsis ntshai."



"No," they said.

Tab sis hluav taws nrov,
 vig-vwg! vig-vwg!
Ib pliag lawv mam pom hluav taws.
Thaum lawv paub tseeb hais tias
 yog hluav taws ces twb kub kub,
 ntaiv ntaiv lawv lawm.

Lawv quaj qw hais tias,
 "Pab lau! Pab lau!"



But then,
 the friends heard fire,
 wh-sh-sh-sh!
Soon they saw fire.
Next they felt fire.
 It was hot!
They all yelled,
 "Help! Help!"

Xob tau ntshai heev
Ces Xob ya plaws rau puag saum ntuj lawm.



Thunder was very afraid
and flew to the sky.

Zaj lij lias
rau hauv av lawm.
Nws mus nkaum hauv qab tsev.



Dragon dug into the ground.
He hid under the house.

Npua Teb tib plhaw
tawm plaws nraum zoov.
Hluav taws kub nws cov ntsis plaub
tawg paj paug.
Ces nws thiaj li tib tug niag daj plhes.



Wild Pig jumped
out of the house.
But the fire burned him
a little,
and made him yellow.

Tsov xav dhia tawm nraum zoov
tab sis Tsov dhia tsis tau.
Niag Tsov dhia mus tib lawg
phab ntsa,
tib lawg phab ntsa
rov poob los xwb.
Ces hluav taws thiaj li
muab niag Tsov kub tus niag
txaij txaij.



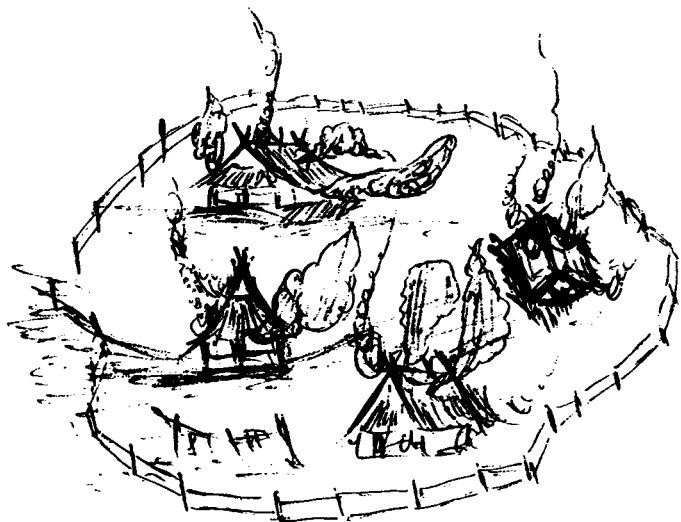
Tiger wanted to jump out.
But he couldn't.
So he jumped
 against the walls--
 again and again.
The fire made him striped.

Niag Dais Dawb dhia tawm tsis tau li.
Hluav taws kub nws lub ntsej muag,
kub nws tes,
kub nws lub cev,
kub nws ceg,
kub nws taw
ces niag Dais thiaj li tib tug niag
dub nciab lawm.



White Bear couldn't jump out.
The fire burned his face.
It burned his arms.
It burned his body.
It burned his legs and feet.
It made him black all over.

Nws yog Saub cov hluav taws
ces nws txawm tsis paub tuag.
Nws kub thiab kub
lawm li mus tau xya xyoo.



The fire burned and burned.
It was Shao's fire.
It burned for seven years.

Hmong Folk Tales

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*NGAO NJUA AND SHEE NA

*THE MONKEYS AND THE GRASSHOPPERS

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(for adult programs)

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