

TXIV NRAUG N TSAUG
thiab NIAM
NKAUJ ZUAG PAJ

The ORPHAN and
NGAO ZHUA PA



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

Orphan and Ngao Zhua Pa; Level 1 (Txiv Nraug
Johnson Charles

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Hmong Folk Tales

Retold in ESL

Series Editor:
Charles Johnson

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MINNESOTA CURRICULUM SERVICES CENTER

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

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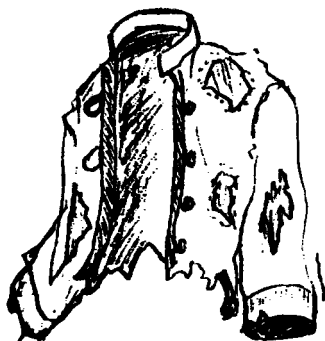


Puag thaum ub muaj ib tug pog laus
hais rau Txiv Nraug Ntsuag hais tias,
"Kuv pab tu siab
 hais tias koj niam tau tuag lawm.
 Koj txiv tau tuag lawm.
Koj xav tau poj niam."



A long time ago,
an old woman said
 to an orphan,
"I'm sorry
 your mother is dead.
I'm sorry
 your father is dead.
You need a wife."

Txiv Nraug Ntsuag teb hais tias,
"Kuv yuav tsis taus poj niam.
Kuv tsis muaj ris tsho hnav.
Kuv tsis muaj tsev nyob..
Kuv tsis muaj nyiaj
ib nyuag qhov hlo li."



The orphan boy said,
"I can't marry a wife.
I don't have any clothes.
I don't have a house.
I don't have any money."

Tus pog laus hais tias,
 "Koj yuav poj niam mas tau xwb.
 Mus ais zaum ntawm ntug kev zov tos.
 Koj yuav pom peb tug viv ncaus.
 Lawv yuav caij peb tug nees
 phem phem lo lo quav tuaj.
 Koj nrog tus kawg thij peb tham.
 Nws yog tus hluas tshaj.
 Koj tuav nws tus nees tseg.
 Tus hlaus nkauj ntawd
 yuav yuav koj ua txiv."



The old woman said,
 "You can marry a wife.
 Go. Sit by the road.
 Watch.
 You will see three sisters.
 They will be riding
 dirty horses.
 Speak to the third sister.
 She is the youngest.
 Stop her horse.
 That girl will marry you."

Ces Txiv Nraug Ntsuag
txawm mus zaum ntawm ntug kev.

Nws zov tos.



So the orphan sat by the road.
He watched.

Ces nws txawm pom peb viv ncaus
caij peb tug nees phem phem lo lo
quav tuaj.



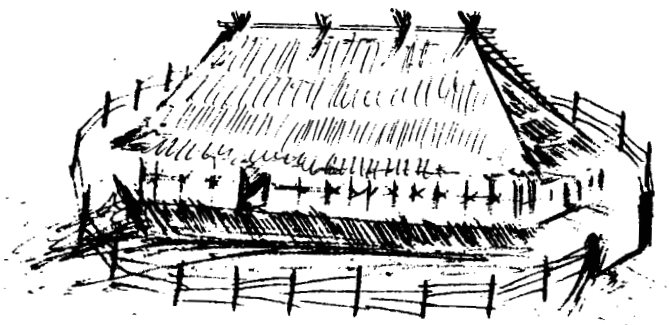
And he saw
three sisters
riding
dirty horses.

Nws txawm nrog tus kawg thij peb tham.
Tus hlau nkauj no nrog nws los
 thiab yuav nws ua txiv.
Tus hluas nkauj lub npe
 hu ua Niam Nkauj Zuag Paj.



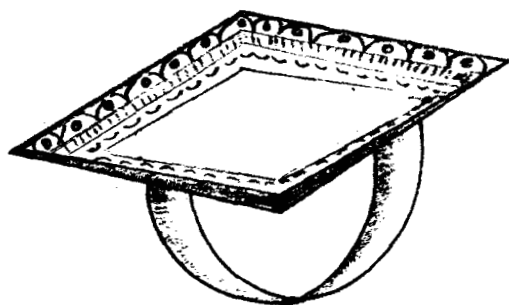
He spoke to the third sister.
She went with him,
 and she married him.
Her name was Nia Ngao Zhua Pa.

Niam Nkauj Zuag Paj
qaws zoj zeeg ib co nplooj.
Muab hloov hlo ua ib lub tsev
zoo nkauj kawg rau nkawd nyob.



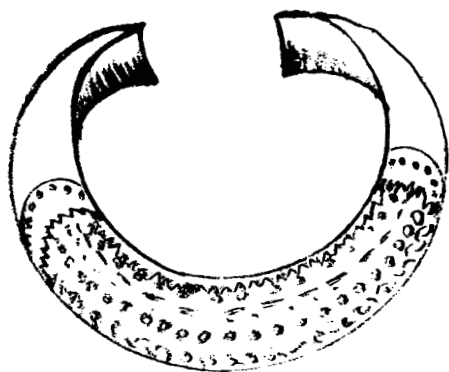
Ngao Zhua Pa took some leaves.
She changed them
into a beautiful house.

Nws hle zoj nws ntiv nplhaib
coj los ua zoj lub yias
thiab lub tsu mov.



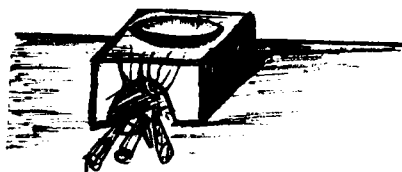
She took off her ring.
She changed it
into a rice pot.

Hle hlo tooj npab los ua lub qhov txos.



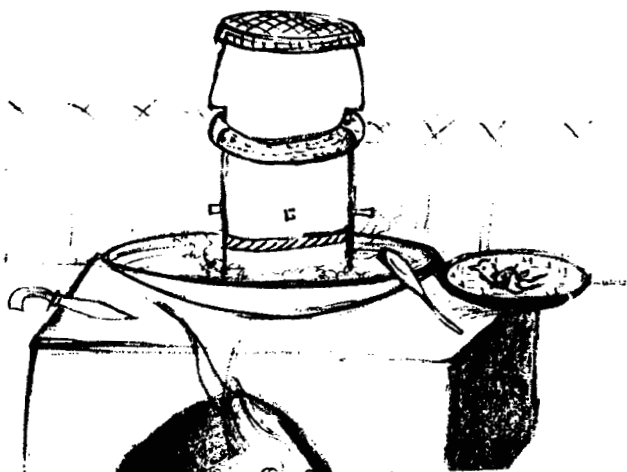
She took off her bracelet.

Muab ib lub txhu
lov ntho ua ob ya
cuam loo hauv tsu
tau ib tsus mov.



She changed it into a stove.

De zoj ib lub paj
muab hloov kiag ua ib tug qaib
hau siav siav.



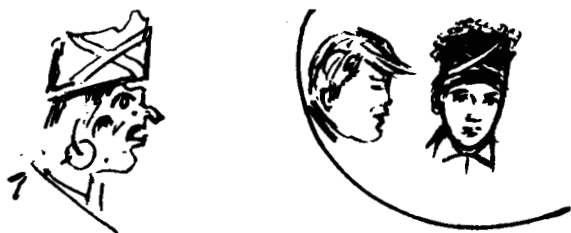
She took half a grain of rice.
She changed it
 into a pot full of rice.
She took a flower.
She changed it
 into a cooked chicken.

Txiv Nraug Ntsuag
tau ib tug poj niam zoo.
Nws zoo siab
thiab muaj nyiaj muaj txiaj.



The orphan had a good wife.
He was happy and rich.

Ces ib tug poj niam nyob ze ntawd,
 hu ua Niam Nkauj Kub Kaws,
 txawm hais tias,
 "Txiv Nraug Ntsuag thiab nws tus poj niam
 ua zoo neej heev.
 Kuv txom nyem
 mas kuv xav muaj thiab."



But a neighbor girl,
 Nia Ngao Kou Ker, said,
 "The orphan and his wife
 are rich.
 I am poor.
 I want to be rich too."

Ces nws khib.
Nws thiaj hais tias,
"Kuv yuav ua phem
rau Nraug Ntsuag poj niam."



She was jealous.
She said, "I will
hurt the orphan's wife."

No ces nws thiaj li
hais rau Txiv Nraug Ntsuag hais tias,
"Koj poj niam yog ib tug neeg phem.
Nws haus ntshav zaj.
Nws haus cuaj taig ntshav zaj.
Hais rau koj poj niam kom nws khiav mus.
Ais kuv los yuav koj.
Kuv yog ib tug poj niam zoo."



Then she said to the orphan,
"Your wife is a bad woman.
She drank dragon's blood.
She drank nine bowls
of dragon's blood.
Tell your wife, 'Go away,'
and I will marry you.
I will be a good wife."

Tus poj niam nyob ze ntawd,
hu ua Niam Nkauj Kub Kaws,
niaj hnub hais rau Txiv Nraug Ntsuag
hais tias,

"Koj poj niam yog ib tug neeg phem.

Kuv zoo nkauj.

Hais kom nws khiav mus

ais kuv yuav los yuav koj."



Every day,
the neighbor,
Nia Ngao Kou Ker,
said to the orphan,
"Your wife is a bad woman.
I am beautiful.
Tell your wife, 'Go away.'
I will marry you."

Ces Nraug Ntsuag
txawm hais rau nws poj niam hais tias,
"Niam Nkauj Zuag Paj khiav mus,
kuv niam zoo nkauj
yuav rawm los yuav kuv."



So the orphan said to his wife,
"Ngao Zhua Pa,
a beautiful young girl
wants to marry me."
And one day,
he said to his wife,
"GO AWAY."

Txiv Nraug Ntsuag poj niam
 tsis xav khiav.
Nws hais tias,
"Kuv xav nrog koj nyob."



His wife didn't want
to go away.
She said,
"I want to live with you."

Nraug Ntsuag cem hais tias,
"Kav tsiy nrawm nroos khiav mus sai sai.
Kuv yuav rawm yuav kuv niam zoo nkauj.
Kuv tsis xav pom koj nyob chov no."



"GO AWAY," the orphan said.
"I want to marry
a beautiful young girl.
I don't want you here."

Ces Nraug Ntsuag poj niam
txawm nges rau nram pas dej lawm.
Nws mus hauv pas dej.
Nws hais rau Nraug Ntsuag tias,
"Txiv Nraug Ntsuag,
xam cia kuv rov qab los las mas."

Tiamsis Txiv Nraug Ntsuag
tsis teb ib los hlo li.



So the orphan's wife went
to the lake.
She walked into it.
She said, "Please, my husband,
tell me to come back."

But the husband
didn't say anything.

Nkauj Zuag Paj
nges mus dej nyab txij pob taws
ho rov hais dua tias,
"Txiv Nraug Ntsuag,
thov cia kuv rov qab los las mas."

Tiamsis Nraug Ntsuag
tsis teb dabtsi hlo li.



The wife said,
"Please, my husband.
The water is up to my knees.
Tell me to come back."

But the husband
didn't say anything.

Niam Nkauj Zuag Paj
nqes mus dej nyab txij caj dab
ho rov hais dua tias,
"Thov las mas Txiv Nraug Ntsuag,
xam cia kuv rov los
wb ua neej las mas."



The wife said,
"Please, my husband.
The water is up to my neck.
Tell me to come back."

Tiamsis Txiv Nraug Ntsuag
tsis teb tus dabtsi li.
Ces dej txawm vov
Niam Nkauj Zuag Paj taub hau.
Ces nws txawm ploj lawm.



But the husband
didn't say anything.
And the water was
over the wife's head.
She was gone.

Txiv Nraug Ntsuag rov qab los tsev.
Ua ciav nws lub tsev ploj lawm.
Tsuas tshuav tib pawg nplooj xwb.
Nws hais tias,
"Kuv lub tsev zoo nkauj dua twg lawm?"



The orphan went home.
His house was gone.
No house--only leaves.
He said,
 "Where is
 my beautiful house?"

Ces nws txawm
rov los yuav Niam Nkauj Kub Kaws,
uas nyob ze nws ntawd.

Tiamsis nws tsis zoo siab.



Then he married
the neighbor girl,
Nia Ngao Kou Ker.
But he was not happy.

Nws mus zaum ntawm ntug pas dej.
Nws hais tias,
"Kuv xav pom Niam Nkauj Zuag Paj."



And he sat down by the lake.
He said,
"I want to see Ngao Zhua Pa."

Qav Taub hnov ces txawm teb tias,
"Kuv haus tau cov dej no.
Kuv haus cov dej no tau tag nrho.
Ces koj yuav pom Niam Nkauj Zuag Paj.
Tiamsis koj yuav tsum
tsis txhob luag.
Nco ntsoov tsis txhob luag."



A frog heard him and said,
"I can drink the water.
I can drink all the water.
Then you can see Ngao Zhua Pa.
But don't laugh.
Remember, don't laugh!"

Ces Qav Taub txawm haus thiab haus.
Dej nqig txog nrab.
Ces nws lub plab
txawm loj loj ntsee lees.
Ces txiv Nraug Ntsuag txawm luag,
"Ha ha ha!"



So the frog drank and drank.
He drank half of the water.
But his stomach got b-i-i-g.
The orphan laughed,
"Ha ha ha!"

Ces Qav Taub plab txawm tawg rhe.
Dej paim nrov tsuag los puv nkaus li qub.



And the frog's stomach
broke
open,
poosh!

The water went
back into the lake,
swoosh!

Txiv Nraug Ntsuag ntsia lub pas dej.
Nws hais tias, "Kuv yuav ua li cas?
Kuv xav pom Niam Nkauj Zuag Paj.
Kuv xav hais rau nws hais tias,
 'ROV QAB LOS.'
Leej twg thiaj li yuav pab tau kuv?



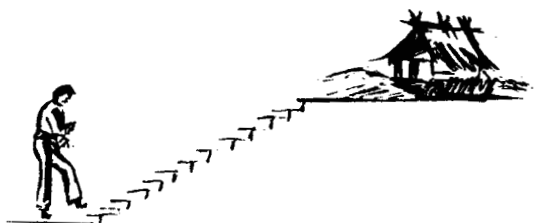
The orphan looked at the lake.
He said, "What can I do?
I want to see Ngao Zhua Pa.
I want to tell her,
 'COME BACK.'
Who can help me?

"Kuv xav tau lawm.
Kuv yuav tsum mus cuag Saub.
Nws paub ib puas tsav yam.
Iws yuav qhia rau kuv hais tias,
kuv yuav tsum ua li cas."



"I know.
I'll go to see Shao.
He knows everything.
He will tell me what to do."

Ces Txiv Nraug Ntsuag
txawm mus cuag Saub. . . .



And so
the orphan went to see Shao.

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Hmong Folk Tales

Titles in this series:

- THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD:
How We Got Grain and Meat
THE BEGINNING OF THE WORLD:
The Sun and Moon
*YAO THE ORPHAN
*THE FIRST FARMER: Why Farmers
Have to Carry Their Crops
*THE WOMAN AND THE TIGER
*NGAO NJUA AND SHEE NA
*THE MONKEYS AND THE GRASSHOPPERS
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SHAO AND HIS FIRE
THE ORPHAN AND NIA NGAO ZHUA PA
*THE WOODCUTTER, HIS ROOSTER
AND HIS WIFE
THE FLOOD: HOW HMONG NAMES BEGAN
(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.

