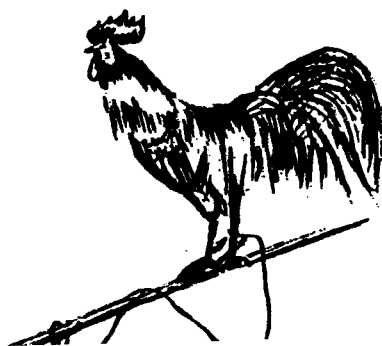


Tus NEEG TXIAV TAWS,
nws tus QAIB thiab nws
POJ NIAM

The WOODCUTTER, his
ROOSTER and his WIFE



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

Woodcutter His Rooster and His Wife; Level 1
Johnson Charles

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Hmong Folk Tales

Retold in ESL

Series Editor:
Charles Johnson

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THE WOODCUTTER,
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Tus neeg txiav taws
thiab nws poj niam
nyob ib lub me nyuam tsev me me.



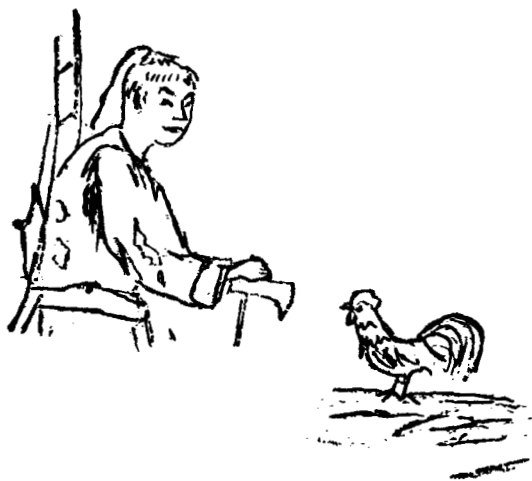
A man and his wife
lived in a little house.

Nkawd pluag.
Nkawd tsis muaj nyiaj
 ib nyuag qhov hlo li.
Nkawd tsuas muaj
 tib tug lau qaib xwb.



They were poor.
They didn't have any money.
They only had
 one little rooster.

Tus neeg txiav taws
nyiam nws tus lau qaib heev.
Txhua txhua tag kis sawv ntxov
nws mus txiav taws lawm.
Tiamsis thaum yuav tawm mus
mas nws yuav tsum nres
ntsia nws tus lau qaib ib pliag tso.



The man loved the rooster
very much.
Every morning,
he went to cut wood.
But he always stopped
and looked at his rooster.

Txhua txhua hmo
mas nws rov qab los tsev.
Mas nws nres ntsia nws tus lau qaib tso.



Every evening
he came home again.
And he always stopped
and looked at his rooster.

Muaj ib tag kis
tus neeg txiav taws
tawm mus txiav taws.
Nws nres.
Nws ntsia nws tus lau qaib.
Ces nws txawm tawm mus txiav taws lawm.



One morning
The woodcutter went
to cut wood.
He stopped.
He looked at his rooster.
Then he went to work.

Nws tus poj niam nyob hauv tsev.
Nws cheb tsev
thiab tu vaj tu tsev.



His wife stayed home.
She swept
and cleaned the house.

Ces nws txawm pom tuaj ib tug yawg
nyob ntawm qhov rooj.
Nws pom ib tug huab tais,
hnav ris tsho zoo zoo nkauj kawg li.



Then she saw someone
at the door.
She saw a king
wearing beautiful clothes.

Tus huab tais hais tias,
"Kuv xav xyuas nej ib pliag."



He said,
"I want to visit you a while."

Ces tus niam txawm teb tias,
"Kuv muaj lus zoo siab ntsib koj.
Thov los hauv tsev no.
Zaum os."



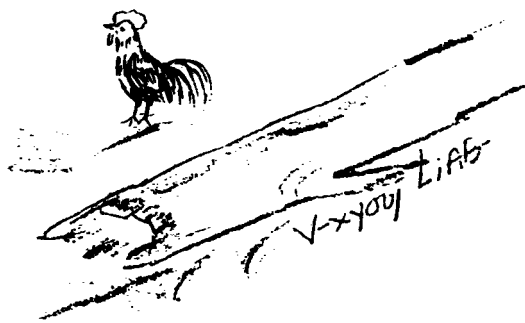
So the wife said,
"I'm happy to see you.
Please come in.
Sit down."

Tiamsis tus poj niam nyuab siab kawg.
Nws hais tias,
"Kuv yuav muab tus dabtsi
ua rau tus nom no noj?
Kuv tsuas muaj kuv tus txiv
tus lau qaib xwb.
Kuv yuav ua li cas?"



But she was worried.
She said,
"What can I give the king
to eat?
I don't have anything.
I only have
my husband's rooster.
What can I do?"

No ces, nws txawm muab tus lau qaib tua,
ua ib pluag mov rau huab tais noj.



Well, she killed the rooster,
and cooked it for the king.

Huab tais hais tias,
"Zoo heev. Zoo heev!"



The king said,
"Very good. Very good!"

Hmo ntawd nws tus txiv
rov qab los tsev.
Nws xub mus tom cooj qaib.



That evening
the woodcutter came home.
He went first
to the chicken house.

Nws mus ntsia.

Nws tsis pom nws tus lau qaib lawm.



He looked.

He didn't see his rooster.

Nws ntsia qhov txhia qhov chaw.



He looked everywhere.

Nws tus txiv los tom tsev mov,
nws nug nws poj niam tias,
"Kuv tus lau qaib dua twg lawm?"



The woodcutter went
into the kitchen.
He asked his wife,
"Where's my rooster?"

Nws tus poj niam
tsis teb dabtsi li.



His wife didn't answer.

Tus txiv chim heev.

"Kuv tus lau qaib dua twg lawm?"



He was angry.

"Where's my rooster?"

Nws muab nws poj niam ntaus.
Ces nws tus poj niam
txawm tsa suab hlo quaj.



He hit her.
And the wife began to cry.

Tus huab tais hnov.
Nws txawm nug tus poj niam ntawd
hais tias,
"Ua li cas koj quaj?"



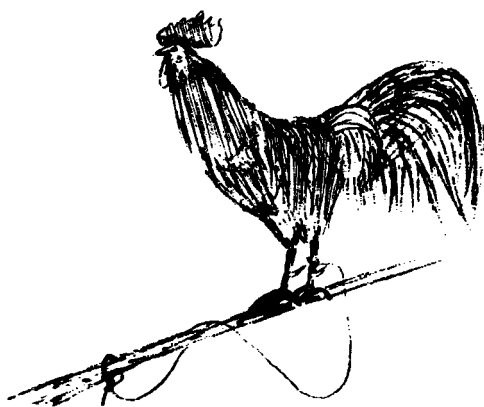
The king heard.
He asked,
"Why are you crying?"

Ces tus poj niam
teb tias,
"Kuv tus txiv tsis zoo siab
vim rau qhov koj yog ib tug huab tais
ais kuv ua ib nyuag pluag
mov me me rau koj noj.



And the wife answered,
"My husband is angry because
I cooked a small dinner.

"Tsis hais tias tua npua
hos tseem tua qaib xwb."



"You are a king.
I didn't cook a pig for you.
I only cooked a chicken."

Ces tus huab tais txawm luag luag.

Nws hais tias,

"Koj thiab koj tus txiv
neb mas zoo hwv laud!



Then the king smiled.

He said,

"You and your husband
are very nice.

"Neb twb tsis muaj nyiaj kiag li.
Tiamsis neb mas paub kev paub cai kawg.



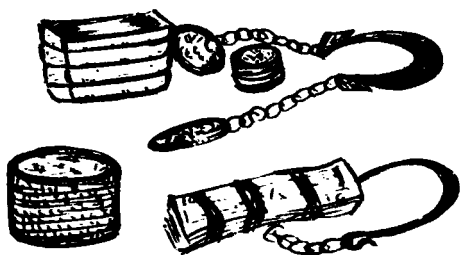
"You don't have any money.
But you are polite.

"Neb tau ua ib pluag mov qab heev
rau kuv noj.
mas neb ua rau kuv zoo siab heev.



"You cooked a good dinner
for me.
And you made me happy.

"Kuv yuav muab kub rau neb.
Thiab
kuv yuav muab nyiaj rau neb.



"I'm going to give you
some gold.
And I'm going to give you
some silver.

"Mas neb yuav ua zoo neej.
Neb yuav tsis pluag
ib zaug ntxiv li lawm."

Ces tus huab tais txawm muab
nyiaj thiab kub
rau tus yawg txiav taws nkawd ob niam txiv.
Nkawd thiaj li ua neej
luag ntxhi mus li lawm.



"You'll be rich.
You won't be poor any more."

So the king gave gold
and silver
to the woodcutter
and his wife.
They were happy
for many, many years.

TXIV TAU NOM UA
VIM POJ NIAM NTSE.

A MAN NEEDS A GOOD WIFE.
SHE CAN HELP HIM VERY MUCH.

Hmong Folk Tales

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