

Section 12: Text.

The Old Woman who Disliked her Son.

m múrá n̄én dò / nìháhéhé dígìrè à lùl
my story lives there old woman certain and born

ò bisá ná bátùrà / díglí sòn yá Yámá-
her children people three one name is

yámawè / díglí sòn yá Digilí kànčá / díglí
one name is one

sòn yá Kánábù / tò ò zí kaal kóhá /
name is then she went bush

à là sà dè dó / à číksí / à kpá
and go build room there and stand and take

bá dò déé tí nì / dèè tí wà kpák
them there room the in room the not have

čóónò / ò yá déé bimbísi / tò Digilí
door it is room without a door then

kànčá tí ò yé níbáállè / à ká gíl
the he is boy and remain

nìhá nár bálè nìbáál bégám / ò zí yaa
girl person two boy one she do

là lí / à člqč doonì muni / a zí yé lí
go out and stand there outside and do

bòol Yàmàyámawè Yámángàlwé Dígíllí sámawè Yáman-
sing Song....

kàncá	kúnábùù	dúgúlú	kàncá	kúnábùù /	dóóné then	níhàà girl
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náá báłē tà lī / à dí / nībáál tī lī
person two the out and eat boy the out

yEE / ò dúng hún / dí ó tá díli /
come / she drive away him / that he not eat

dóohé ó b'r kâàlì zàzón ó wà bùrà wà /
then she return went evening she come return come

à vèn wà ló / ò ló cénè / nìhàán tà
and again come sing. she sing on and on girls the

vèn bùrà wà dí líwé tà / nìbáál kààlì /
again return come eat food the boy went

ó dúǵní nǐbáál tì / dí ó tá lélí dóóné /
she chase boy the that he not come there

ò lá / gbìhá ká ná hùn / à ká káálì /
she go wolf also sec her and also went

gbihá wáli / dí ó ló ó tà gbíhě tà
wolf come out that he sing his voice wolf voice

zénú	/	dóóné	bá	kààlì	/	nùbáál	tì	tiín
big		then	they	went		boy	the	one

nɔ́ bá / má tá lélí, yà níń tá làlá /
 tell them / you not go out our mother voice not

má lí yè kùndón nò zí kpàksí mǎn /
you out if something this will catch you

á sè-ó / á dàhá má !tá lélí yoo /
and eat and so that you not go out

dóóné bá vè kǎa kpák hún / á dàu / à
then they refuse and hold him and put down and

túk hún / bà níin wá !búrá wá / à wà
beat him their mother come return come and come

ló / bá !píilí bà níin ní / bà níin
sing they start their mother to their mother

ḡó díwé tómà ò vè díilí čéndàhá ó ḡò /
say food the he not eat so that he say

dí má lí yèò kùndón kpàksí mǎ sé / à dàhá
that you out if something catch you eat and that

ḡ wá búr wà à ló / ká ó čaa dí má
I go return come and sing and he say that you

!tá lélí má !túk hún dáu tééné ní / dóóné
not go out you beat him put ground on then

gbíhà búr kǎali máčérè wáá tí / á lá lók
wolf return went blacksmith to the and go make

ó tà máčérè ḡó hún díí ó lè wána kǎa
his voice blacksmith say him that he is coming and

wà ná hók nínbàan ní ó tá zír sééilí dóóné
come see bone road on he not take chew then

ó wà / à wá / à wà ná hók nínbáún
he come / and come / and come see bone road

ní kú ó kùr cò / à wá nù à ɲmɛrɪ
on and it just lie / and with oil and shining

nù / ò gálɪ hùn ní / à wà ná dɪgɪ /
oil / he pass it by / and come see one /

à ná dɪgɪ ò gálɪ hùn ní / à lá / à
and see one he pass it by / and go / and

zɪ wá ná dɪgɪ / ká ó kùr sɔŋɪ wá nù
come see one / and it just lie big with oil

ní à pál / ò ɲó dɪf nònó wàrà ò zɪ
on [it] and running he say that this one he will

sè hùnù / à zɪ káálɪ / doóné ò ló /
chew it / and went / then he sing /

bà vɛn káálɪ / nɪbáál tì tɪná ɲó dí bá
they again go out boy the one say that they

tá léélɪ / à vɛn nánɲ bà và léélɪ / bà
not go out / and again win them not go out / their

nín wá bà ɲó bá nínà / dí ó ɪbúr wá
mother come they tell their mother / that she return come

búrà kaa ló ká ó cɛa dí bá tá léélɪ /
again and sing and he say that they not go out /

bá tók hùn dáu pásà / doóné gbíhà zɪ búr
they beat him down make weak / then wolf return

kààlì mǎčĕrĕ zí ɲó hún búlĕénà / è búrá
went blacksmith say him second time you return

wá bùtùrà tíiná / ì waa zí bùr iòk è
come third time I not will again make your

tà tí lĕé hún / ghùhá sì / à vé dí
voice the give you wolf get up and refuse that

ó wàrá túŋ nínbààn kǎa vàn túŋ kòhá /
he not pass road and immediately pass bush

sáp sáy sáy eàp / à lè ǔŋ dĕĕ tí mùní
noise of wolf's legs and go stand room the outside

kǎa yéí tà / bà ká kaalí ǔ / bà màkpáá
and open voice they and went now they all

wá lágámì à lí / bà lí ní bégám ní lĕgám
come together and out they out one by one

bégámné / dōóné níhá bégám lí / gbùhé lĕpótí
one then girl one out wolf kill

à zĕr dí / dígí bú lí / ò pótí à
and take eat one again out he kill and

zĕr dí ká nŕáál tí tíiná / zàzòón bá lĕníná
take eat remain boy the one evening their mother

wá wà / à ló bóól ǔ / ò ló wà kòó /
come come and sing song now she sing come tired

nàn dígí wàrá lí / dōóné ó pòk dĕ kǎa
nobody not out then she open room and

là zò / à pù nìbáál tì tìiná / à
go enter and meet boy the one and

péésí hún dí leenée kīnūn tómà kà ò ọ́
ask him that where othera the and he say

díí nàń dígí wálí bàńò à ló bóólà / ò
that somebody come here and sing song he

ọ́ díí bá tá lélí / bà vè kaálí /
tell that they not go out they refuse went

ń wà zím dōonè bà kpàlámì / dōoné ò níń
I not know where they are then his mother

tí kpák hún / à túk hún à ọ́ hún dí
the hold him and beat him and tell him that

dōonùńí è tó tōòrì óó lá / ò ká vaan
wherever your heart desires he go he and immediately

zò kòhá / à wí / à lá / lá lá lí dí
enter bush and cry and go and go out

kákáhá káká hólé / à ẹ̀lẹ̀ / à wí / kákáhá tì
tree tree dry and stand and cry tree the

péésí hún dí báńnè ò deũ bánò ní / ò ọ́
ask him that what he find there in he say

díí bá lńfíná lól bà ná bátúra / ò dũńdũń yá
that their mother bore them persons three he only is

nìbáál à gbáńc nìháán lńábálè tòmání / dōoné
boy and others girl two instead then

bá 'nín há h'n kaa túk hún kaa čaa
their mother dislike him and beat him and say

díí ó tóhá tóórí doonání ó lá / kákáhá tí
that his heart desires wherever he go tree the

ńó h'n dí ó 'kpák hómíú / ọ ńó dí mm
say him that he take heart he say that yes

tò dí ó búrígí ló dáwí hólénà á dāu dín tí
that he break its branches dry and put fire the

zìg zìg / ó zá čèl dín tí ní / doóné
noise of fire he jump fall fire the in then

ọ búrígí lá dāu dín tí bù zìg zìg / ọ zàà
he break and put fire the burn noise of fire he jump

čèl dín tí ní biu / doóné búrégé tó
fall fire the in sound of falling then become town

bírígí / á člŋl doóní pà / tò ó waa búrégé
good-big and stand there big now he come become

kórrè čì bísí sú / doóné ó páánì ọ háán
chief now children many then his 1st wife his wife

hēē ọ tú là pùl / dí ó lá dō ní /
old she down go river that she go draw water

ọ bùtè kò gbèrègé tà nìí nì wòzò kámà cénè /
she pour food leftover the water on day every on and on

ò yà háán tí ká wá kpák nìbíńí doonání /
she do woman the and come have nobody there

ò zí ná díwé / àà dí / síkírè / ò
she see food and eat it is sad she

zí yá ò lélí dí háán kà pélèè p' llè' àà
do she go out that woman and lean against river and
bank

ló / dooné nìháán tì ò ká nú ǎì dómí
sing then woman the she also hear now because

nìbáál tì tīn sòn ká yá Dúgílì kànčá / ò
boy the owner name and is she

ká wá sàù bá nàmɔ̀ dàm ní / à wàà nám
also come millet grinding house in and come grind

sàù ká lè ló / ò ká ló ǎì / ò ká nú
millet and come sing she also sing now he also hear

à yír hún dí ó wá pèèsi leenée ó pù bó
and call her that she come ask where she get song

lém nó à kpák à lò / ò nò díí nùhàhée
sweet this and have and sing she say that old woman

dígḷ n̄én púl nì / à yaà ló ká bá kpà
one lives river in and do sing and they take

kó gbèrègé tà / à n̄é hún / ò dí /
food leftover the and give her she eat

dooné ó n̄è bá vò záágá / à n̄é hún /
then he let them untie horse and give him

ò zíní / bà léé dí ò pélè àà ló /
he mount they go that she lean and sing

ò kpá hín wà dàmá / à wà kpó núhà /
he take her come house and come kill cow

à ñé / bà tük kápálá / ò dí púq /
and give they pound fufu she eat satisfy

sáhà tí ò níín tí wà búzím hín / ò pèèàù
time the his mother the not know him he ask

ò nííná dí ó ɪzím húnù / ò ɣó dí àyí /
his mother that she know him she say that no

dí ó wà zím húnù / sáhà ná ò yêr ò
that she not know him time this he call his

són Dúgílí kànčá ɛ́ / sáhà tí ò níín zím
name now time the his mother know

dí ó bee ɛ́ / tò híisá zé kpák ò nííná /
that her child now then shame take his mother

ò níín zé sòu / m múr tí màgá ɛ́ //
his mother died my story the all now

This is my story. Once upon a time there was an old woman who had three children. The first was called Yama Yamawe, the second Digili Kancha, and the third Kanabu. The old woman went into the forest and built a house there which did not have a door. Then she put the children inside. Digili Kancha was the boy, and the other two were girls.

The next day the old woman went and stood outside the house and sang calling the children's names. The two girls came out and began to eat, but when the boy came out his mother drove him away so that he could not eat. She went home and returned in the evening, and began to sing again. The girls came out to eat but the boy was again driven away. As she returned home, the wolf saw her going, so he came out and sang with his big voice. Then the boy told the girls not to go out as it was not their mother's voice. 'If you go out something will get you and eat you.' Then the girls took hold of him pushed him down and beat him. The mother soon returned to sing, and

the girls started to tell their mother that the boy would not let them go out and eat, because if they did something would catch them and eat them.

Then the wolf went to the blacksmith to fix his voice. The blacksmith did so on the condition that if he saw a bone on the road he was not to chew it. The wolf went along the road and saw a bone on the road shining with oil. He passed by it and saw another one, passed by it and saw another one, and passed by it and saw yet another one. This one was big and shining with oil, and he said that he would eat this one. Then he began to sing, but the boy told them not to go out. The wolf returned to the blacksmith and had his voice fixed again, went back to the house and tried singing once more. Then the children began to come out one by one. When the first girl came out the wolf ate her, and when the second one came out he ate her too, until only the boy remained.

In the evening their mother returned to sing. She sang until she was tired, but no one came out. So she entered the house and met the boy and asked him where the others were. He told her that somebody came and sang, and that he told the girls not to go out, and that now he did not know where they were. Then the mother took hold of him and beat him, and told him to go wherever his heart desired. Then he went out into the forest and stood under a dead tree crying. The tree asked him what was the matter, and he told it of how his mother disliked him and had told him to go wherever his heart desired. Then the tree told him to make a fire and to jump into it. So he jumped, and the tree became a town, and the boy became a chief and had many children.

Then the chief's first wife who was very old went down to the river to fetch water, and to pour the leftover food into the river. An old woman was down there. She had no friends and used to see the food and would eat it. Then she would lean against the river bank and sing the song of the children's names. The first wife then went to the grinding mill to grind corn, and began to sing the same song. Her husband heard her singing, and inquired where she had heard it. She told him that there was an old woman down by the river who liked to sing it.

Then the chief told them to get the horse ready, and he mounted and they all went down to the river. There the old woman was leaning against the river bank singing. He picked her up, took her home, and they killed a cow and pounded fufu. The old woman ate until she was satisfied, but his mother did not know him. He asked her if she knew him, but she said she did not. So he told her his name. Then his mother knew that he was her child, and she was ashamed of the way that she had treated him. Eventually she died, and that is the end of my story.

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