



THE MUD MONSTER

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- A story written by Jennifer Baker
and illustrated by Rrikili ,

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One day I went for a walk to the swamp.

I sat down.

I sat looking at the swamp.

It was muddy.

Wanganymirri garra marrtji bala djudum'mirriliili
wãgalili, bala garra nhinana.

Ga garra nhãma'nhama gunhi wãga mala,

ga garra nhakuna nhãma mirithirri

djudum'mirri gunhi wãga.



Just then, I saw something rising .
As it rose out of the mud I became scared.
It was something big and muddy.

Begurudhi, bala narra nhama gula nha gayi marrtji
rur'yun djudum'guru.
Ga gunhi gayi marrtji rur'yundja, bala garranydja
barrarirrina.



That thing walked up to me and said,
"I am the Mud Monster, and this is my swamp.
Who told you to come here ?

Yurru mirithirri gunhi yindi gula nhānydja,
ga djudum'mirri, bala gayi marrtji garrakalana,
ga waga garraku bitjanna,
"Dhuwala garra djudum'puy mokuy. Ga dhuwala garraku
wānga. Yolthu dhuwala nhugu waga lakarangala rāli
marrtjinyarawa ?"



I said, "I didn't know it was yours."

Then he chased me.

Ga garranydja bitjarra,

"Yaka garra marggi junhi nhugu dhuwala wanga",

Bala gayi nerranha guparana.



I ran and got the hose and wet him.
All the mud fell off him !
That was the end of the Mud Monster.

Narranydja gana wandina,
bala garra gapupuynga raki' m'arragala,
bala yurr'yurrunana ganya.

Bala djudum'tja nhanukalanunuru larryurrunana,
bala nayi buwayakthinana nunhi djudum'puy
mokuynydja.



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