

## THE MUD MONSTER

 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 ŋarra marrtji bala djudum'mirrilili wäŋalili, bala ŋarra nhinana.
Ga ŋarra nhäma'nhama ŋunhi wäŋa mala,
ga ŋarra nhakuna nhäma mirithirri
djudum'mirri ŋunhi wäŋa.



Just then, I saw something rising.

As it rose out of the mud I became scared.

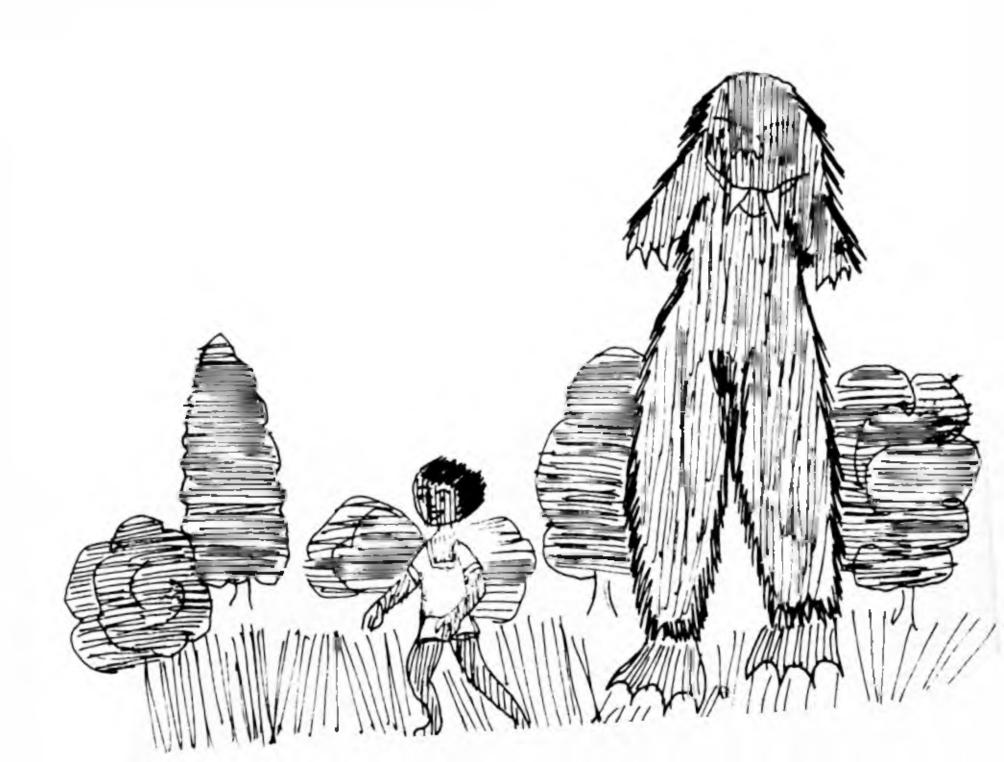
It was something big and muddy.

Benurudhi, bala narra nhāma nulo nhā nayi marrtji rur'yun djudum'nuru. Ga nunhi nayi marrtji rur'yundja, bala narranydja 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 wāga. Yolthu dhuwala nhugu waga lakaragala rāli marrtjinyarawa ?"



I said, "I didn't know it was yours." Then he chased me.

Ga ŋarranydja bitjarra, "Yaka ŋarra marŋgi ŋunhi nhuŋu dhuwala wäŋa", Bala ŋayi narranha ŋuparana.



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 gapupuynha raki' märragala, bala yurr'yurrunana ganya.

Bala djudum'tja nhanukolanunuru larryurrunana, bala nayi buwayakthinana nunhi djudum'puy mokuynydja. This work is from the Living Archive of Aboriginal Languages <a href="www.cdu.edu.au/laal.">www.cdu.edu.au/laal.</a>
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