

Ni-gung-yung nyarru-dhong

Mela bin katim shugabeg / We cut sugarbag

A Ngandi story
by Janie Ginburr Hall

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Nga-rudhuni nitjjuh nga-guren. A-bijayh-bitj nga-rudhung, jipbah dhadha-dhadhabarngh nga-wakging. Nakgih naan gu-balpba-gitj nga-garninyang. Gu-dheren-gitj nga-rudhuni; ma-dhatdam, ma-burpbah nga-wurlupdhung ngama-miyang. Maguyk ngama-mangi, a-mambalh bulukgih.

Nga-guren nga-rudhung nitjjuh, gu-balpa-gitj nitjjuh nga-rudhung nga-guren. Nyerr-pula nanih-pula nyarr-bir nyarrudhung. Nyarr-bir-gapbul nyarr-ga-guren. Nyarr-ga-rudhung malagalitjjung a-jarra ni-gung barru-dhong. Barru-gorthang ni-gung a-jambakgah-gitj.

We chopped out honey

I'm going now, I'll go hunting here. I'm going to go after goannas, and come back in the afternoon. I'll wait right there, along by the river. I'm going to the billabong and I'll dive down and get water-lily fruit, and lily roots. I got runggay (called *maguyk*), and mussels as well.

I'm going off to go hunting here, here by the river. I'll go with her and with those two, we'll all go. All of us will go hunting. We'll go out, and those others can chop out honey put. They can put the honey into a billy-can.

Nga-rudhuni

I go
Mi gu

nitjuh

this way
dije

nga-guren.

I'll go hunting.
ai garra gu hanting.

A-bijayh-bitj

For goanna
Bla guwena

nga-rudhung,

I'll go,
ai garra gu,

jipbah

later
bambai

dhadha-dhadhabarngh

in the afternoon
aftanun taim

nga-wakging.

I'll come back.
ai garra kambek.

Nakgih naan

there now
jeya na

gu-balpba-gitj

to the river
la riba

nga-ga-rninyang.

I'll sit down.
ai garra jidan.

Gu-dheren-gitj nga-rudhuni ma-dhatdam,
to the billabong I go lily seed
langa bilibong ai gu yarlbun

ma-burpbah nga-wulupdhung ngama-miyang
lily root I'll dive I'll get it.
garnaya ai garra bogi ai garra gajim.

Ma-guyk ngama-mangi, a-mambalh bulukgih.
Water potato I was getting, mussels as well.
Runggay ai bin gajimbat, marlabangu du.

Nga-guren nga-rudhung nitjuh, gu-balpba-gitj
I'll go hunting I'll go this way to the river
Ai garra gu hanting, ai garra gu dijei langa riba

nitjuh

this way

dije

nga-rudhung

I'll go

ai garra gu

nga-guren.

I'll go hunting.

ai garra gu hanting.

Nyerr-pula

us two

minbala

nanih-pula

and her too

en im igin

nyarr-bir

we are many

mela bigmob

nyarru-dhung.

we'll go.

mela garra gu.

Nyarr-bir-gapbul

we are a big group

mela bigmob

nyarr-ga-guren.

we'll go hunting.

mela garra gu hanting.

Nyarr-ga-rudhung

we'll go

mela garra gu

malagalitjung

the others

najalot

a-jarra

what's-it...
wanim...

ni-gung

sugarbag
shugabeg

barru-dhong.

they'll cut it.
thei garra katim.

Barru-gorthang

They'll put it
Thei garra pudum

ni-gung

sugarbag
shugabeg

a-jambakgah-gitj.

into a billycan.
langa biliken.



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