

Nago Folktales From Bante

Ɔmu Ti Kogbo Ɔro

A Stubborn Child

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Chorus Awlin jogli jogli jo, awlin.	Vocables that show people are ready to listen to the story.
Oni, le alɔ ɔ win? [x2]	I say, here is my story.
Emi Afɔ kɔ gbɔ ni oo.	I told him it was forbidden but he didn't listen to me.
Mofe gi folu ja.	I invoke my fable.
Iyami kɔ nkɔ gbɔ.	My mother forbid me, but I didn't listen.
Baba mi kɔ nkɔ gbɔ.	My father forbid me, but I didn't listen.
Abuo mi, Alɔ.	My brothers, my story.
Alɔ mi ɔ raaa mata mata, ɔta bɔba	My story rolls and rolls and falls on a king.
Ɔta enian mɛta.	My story has three people.
Ɔn wasi, ɔn wasi.	They live in the same area.
Ɔnli ka ɔ le keshe igi	They decided one day to go look for some firewood.
Ɔn sa nshe gi mam mam mam.	In the bush, they collected wood.
Eyi hun bɔɔ yɛ, ɔn pija sileti si.	They were discovered a pounding rock in the bush and they remembered this spot.

ጋሙ ለገሰገሱ፣ ለገሰገሱ፣ ለገሰገሱ።	Then they were saying that they would put this pounding rock to use.
ገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ።	They went back home and they forbid them from going back to that place.
ጋሙንገሰገሱ ነገሩ ለገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ	One of the three had said that he was going to go there.
ጋሙ ለገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ።	The child's mother had asked him to soak some corn to make a drink.
ገሰገሱ ነገሩ ለገሰገሱ።	The child refused to soak the corn.
ገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ።	The mother did the work herself.
ጋሙ ገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ።	This child went to the place that he found the rock that could be used to crush corn.
ገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ።	The child put some corn on the pounding rock and started crushing.
ገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ።	He continued crushing without knowing that he was being watched.
ገሰገሱ፣ ለገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ። [x2]	I say, here is my story.
ገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ።	Vocables that show people are ready to listen to the story.
ገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ።	I told him it was forbidden but he didn't listen to me.
ገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ።	Vocables that show people are ready to listen to the story.
ገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ።	I invoke my fable.
ገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ ለገሰገሱ።	Vocables that show people are ready to listen to the story.
ገሰገሱ ነገሩ ለገሰገሱ።	My mother forbid me, but I didn't listen.

Awlin jogli jogli jo, awlin.	Vocables that show people are ready to listen to the story.
Baba mi kɔ nkɔ gbɔ.	My father forbid me, but I didn't listen.
Awlin jogli jogli jo, awlin.	Vocables that show people are ready to listen to the story.
Ogboni ε lo wa nbε ni shɔ dε nbε.	The child didn't know that his father was hunting in the area.
Oni ogboni hun ni, abile hun ni.	The child realized that his father was around, his parent.
Oni han omuye ma jε, omu ye majε.	He started touching the breasts of a girl that he found in the bush.
Oni toto la apla po igahihun, ilε hun sεgε.	The hunter had fired in the area that the the girl and stubborn child were.
Ɔta eso lai wɔn.	He fired on them.
Ɔrɔ mu igi di o nwaa ngbε.	The hunter went to find the young girl.
Hun waa, hun waa, oto nuejɔ oke odo Nbukɔ bε.	He looked for her up to the Nbukɔ lake.
Ngbε eyi hun debε nu ba nu pe.	It was here that they found her singing.
Ɔpa ye jɔ Lajogu.	This stick looks like Lajogu.
Jɔ jɔ jɔ, Lajogu, jɔ.	Looks like Lajogu.
Chorus [x4] Ɔpa ye jɔ Lajogu.	This stick looks like Lajogu.
Jɔ jɔ jɔ, Lajogu, jɔ.	Looks like Lajogu.
Om̩u eyi a ngbo nɔn pe ni Lajogu.	It was the child that we are looking for, Lajogu.
Iwa igbe ɔ mɔn in dele, ogbe ɔmɔn igi do ε dele.	They returned back to the house, the hunter, the young girl and the hunter's son.

**Hun l ɔ hun l ɔ ba c gbo ati ogbo ni ε
gbo nɔn pe ɔm ɔn in.
Ni iwa yi oshe gba, an kɔ fεε lε kɔ gbɔ
ε.**

They were all there, then one day the
father, a wiseman, and a child reunited.
Then they told him, that bad behavior
that you have and you often refuse, you
are stubborn

**Bi ko shi ogboni ε ni ɔl dε lɔlɔ ba ε bε
fe nje ɔkaku?**

If it was not for your father you may
have been dead.

Idi alɔ mi nin in.

That is the message my story carries.