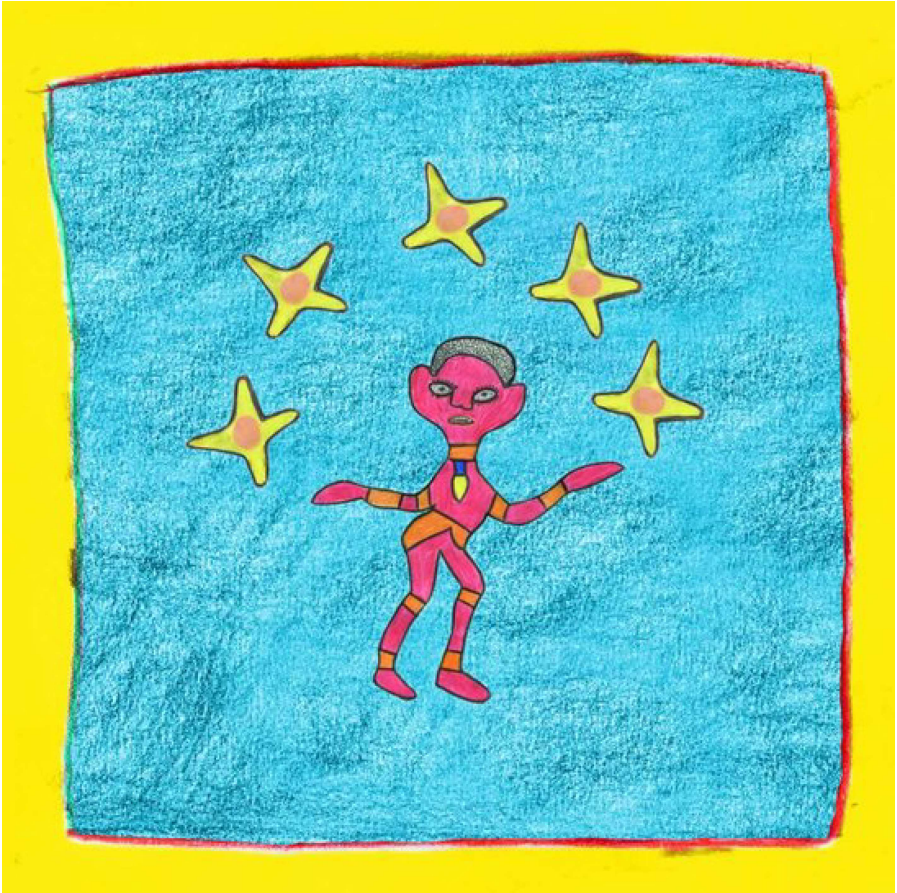


# Dima na Bwindri

Dim a and Owl



Translated into shiNdzuan i by Cam Houser  
shiNdzuan i, English



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Translated into shiNdzuanani by Cam Houser

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Dima na Bwindri

Dima and Owl

Writer: Traditional San Story

Illustrations: Marlene Winberg, Manyeka Arts Trust

Reformatted for Bloom by: Marlene Custer

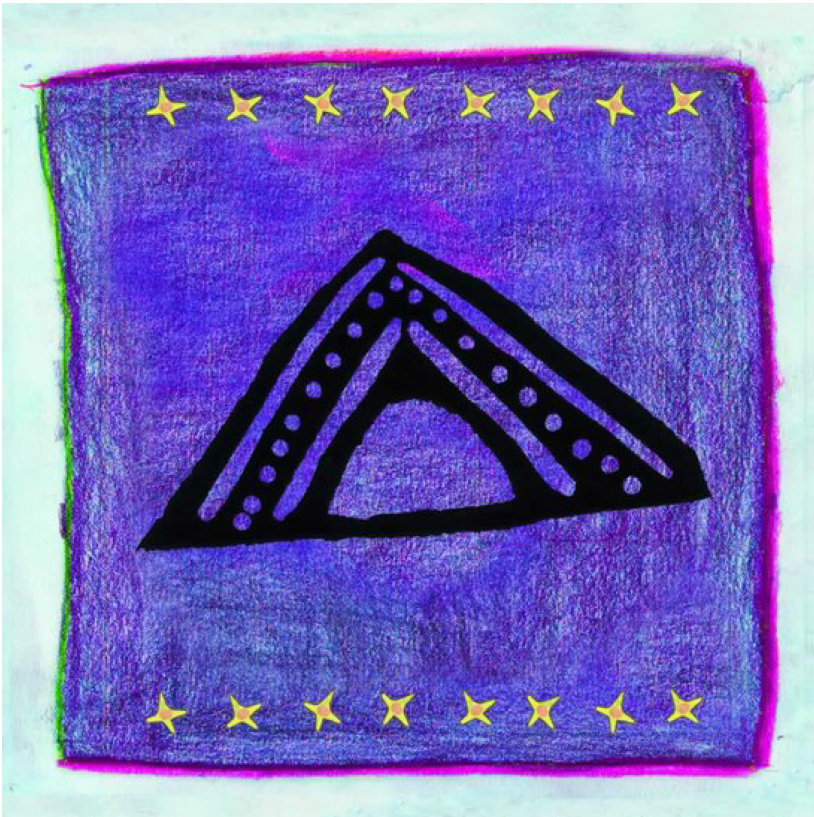
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African Storybook Project

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shiNdzواني, English

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Hale hale hoho vwaka wantru waili tu, Dima na Bwindri. Bwindri akana lijua, limwezi, maji, na moro. Dima kakana ta ntrongo na ayenshi shidzani na wadjemazaha.

In the old days there were two people, Dima and Owl. Owl had the sun, the moon, water, and fire. Dima did not have anything and lived in darkness with his family.

Dima abahatisha huhua matamai be kayishindra mana kavwatsi jua. Wantru pia wakana shizaya mana kavwatsi jua. Wakati wafuma shinyama hu la, warungia nyama mwirini huhuma, be iola haraka mana kavwatsi jua.

Dima tried to grow tomatoes, but he wasn't able to because there was no sun. Everyone suffered because there was no sun. When they hunted animals to eat, they hung the meat in the trees to dry, but it rotted quickly because there was no sun.



Suku moja Dima amurisha hu vira Bwindri. Wakati wala shahula hoho, Dima afikiri mana ntrini shahula she Bwindri ikana lada fetre. Afkiri tsena labda shahula ikana lada mana ihua na jua na ipihwa moroni.

One day, Dima decided to visit Owl. When they they are food there Dima wondered why Owl's food tasted so good. He wondered if the food was good was because it arew in the sun and it was cooked in fire.





Dima afikiri mpango la jua be asitiri. Amurisha hu zina. Atsaha wantru pia wamangulidziwa na wamangalia wakati azina. Waye mzina ndjema. Bwindri na wadjemazahe wamangaliwana ngoma nzuzuri.

Dima thought of a plan for the sun but kept it secret. He decided to dance. He wanted everyone to gather around him and see him dance. He was was a good dancer. Owl and his family admired the beautiful dancing.



Wakati shidza ija, Bwindri amurisha hu vinga lijua mwenze vavo ashindra hu angaliya ngoma ya Dima tsena. Bwindri abalishia lijua mkobani harimwa numba yahe. Avingi lijua mwenze inumba na atria lijua shitswani. Avasa ishidza ilawa. Wantru pia washindra hu angalia uvahanu mbali. Kayahoma kula wantru wakozi na weli wa ujua.

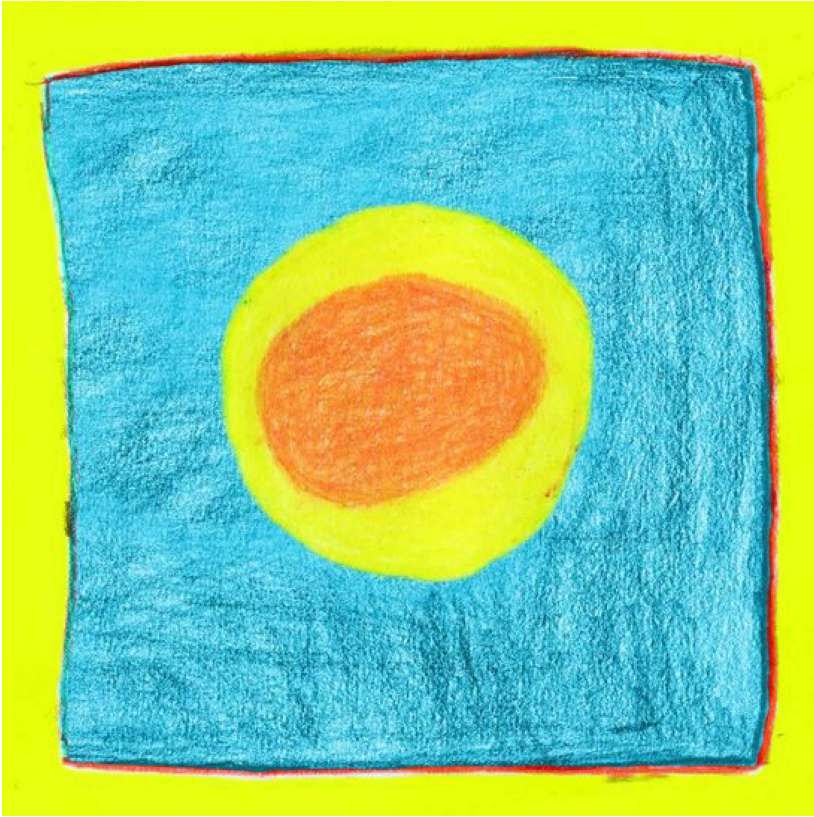
When darkness came, Owl decided bring the sun out so that he could still watch Dima's dancing. Owl kept the sun in a bag in his house. He carried the sun out of his house and held it on his head. Now the darkness left. Everyone could see far into the distance. Soon everyone was dancing in the light of the sun



Dima aja karibu na lijua wakati akozina. Bwindri asika lijua be wakati iviri na waye adala lijua mana ajiviwa swafi na ngoma. Bwindri awono Dima azina ndzuzuri. Atsaha hu zina halile wajawu.

Dima came closer to the sun while he was dancing. Owl held on to the sun, but after some time passed he forgot about the sun because he enjoyed the dancing so much. Owl saw how beautifully Dima danced. He wanted to dance like that too.





Ha lini kamwe Dima asika mhongoju yahe na alirema li jua hawani mawuri boli. Lijua lisendra mbali swafi ata mpaka libaki dahari binguni. Lijua mba wantru weu we ujua suku pia.

Suddenly, Dima took his walking stick and hit the sun into the air like a ball. The sun went so far that it stayed in the sky forever. The sun gave everyone sunlight all day.

Dima atrawa haraka vavo Bwindri kashindra humpara. Kasubutu hu vira Bwindri wakati nyengi. Be suku moja Dima apindra kasketi mlibwavu na maheke nyengi hudjitsitsa usu yahe na endre numba ya Bwindri.

Dima ran away so fast that Owl could not find him. He didn't dare to visit Owl again for a long time. But one day Dima wore a large hat and many beaded necklaces to hide his face and he went to Owl's house.



Uwana warambuana Dima na warongoa, "Unu de muntru huiba lijua lawo!" Uwantru mtrumuhu kawakubali na uwana na warongoa, "An'han, unu tsi de muntru huiba lijua latru."

The children recognised Dima and said, "There is the man who stole our sun!" The older people did not agree with the children and said, "No, this is not the man who stole our sun."





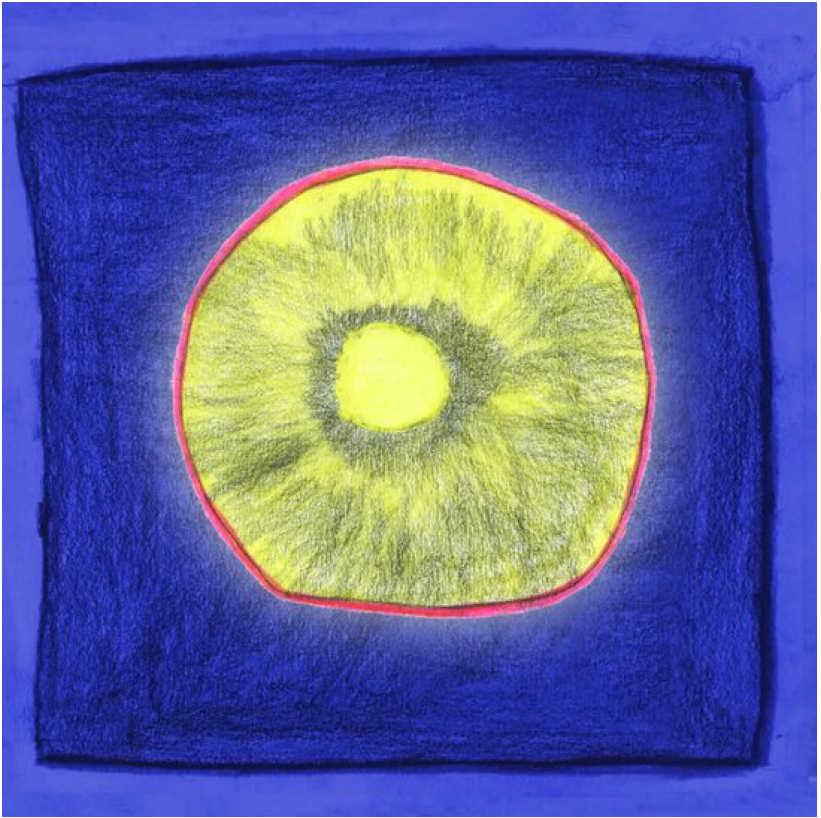
Wamono Dima nafikiri amba waye mzina mtrumuhu. Apindra maheke nyengi. Maheke ini de maheke uchai ya huzina. Maheke ini de irambuha wantru hu zina. Kayahoma wantru pia wasizina. Wazina mtsana na jioni pia ata maka lijua litswa. Shidza ija na wantru kawashindra hu wono mzina aurumia uchai.

They saw Dima and thought he was an old dancer. He wore a lot of beads. These were magic dancing beads. The beads made people dance. Soon everyone was dancing. They danced the whole afternoon until the sun set. Darkness came and people couldn't see the magic dancer.

Bwindri ambia mtrumshe yahe, "Endra na renga imwezi nkobani." Bwindri atria imwezi shitswani na weu wa imwezi ija na wantru washindra hu wona ingoma. Wakati wakozina Dima atsengalea karibu na imwezi mana ana upango.

Owl said to his wife, "Go and take the moon from my bag." Owl held the high on his head and moonlight came and people were able to see the dancing. While they were dancing Dima moved closer to the moon because he had a plan.





Ha lini kamwe Dima asika mhongoju yahe na alirema lijua hawani. Atrawa Bwindri tsena. Kila moja unu Dima kasubutu huvira na Bwindri wakati nyeeeeengi ata mpaka Bwindri na wadjemazahe wamdala.

Suddenly Dima took his walking stick and hit the moon high up into the air. He ran away from Owl again. This time Dima didn't dare to visit Owl for a very long time, until Owl and his family forgot about him.

Dima adjitsitsa uso yahe tsenā na aregea numba ya Bwindri. Wakati unu atsaha moro ya Bwindri. Bwindri aprindra dusu ya kuni itria moro ntsingoni. Dima akentsi na Bwindri utsini mwiri na wateza dangadzo hubiha masama.

Dima hid his face again and returned to Owl's house. This time he wanted Owl's fire. Owl wore a necklace of fire sticks around his neck. Dima sat with Owl under a tree and started playing a clapping game.

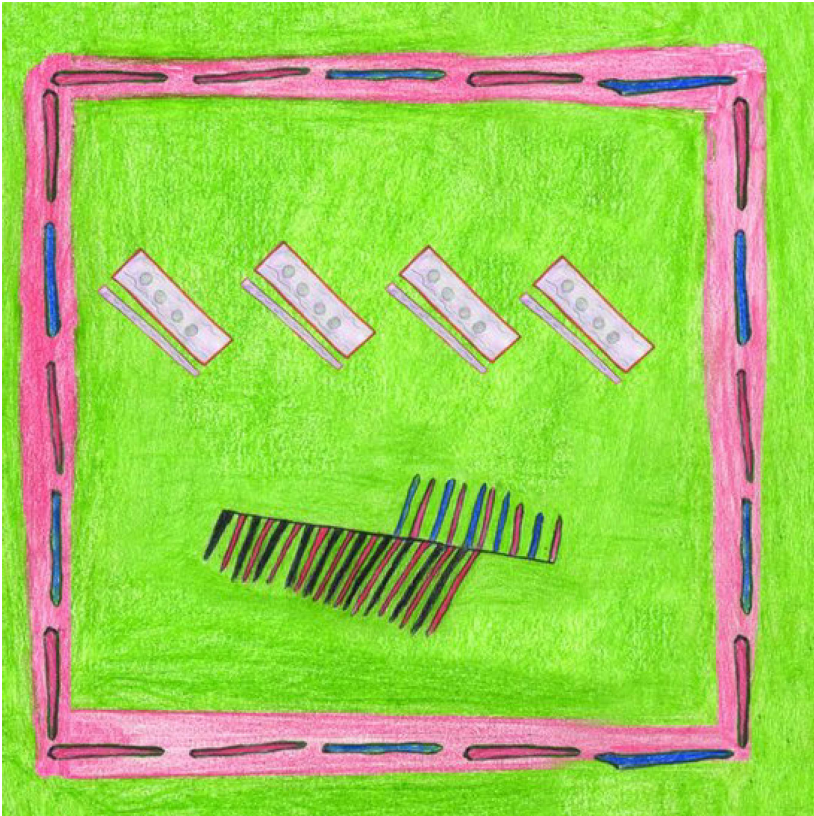






Wabiha masama tsena na tsena. Wakati wabiha masama Bwindri na dusu ya kuni itria moro yahe isidiha. Dima abahatisha husiki idusu ya kuni itria moro be wakati ule Bwindri azingisa busu na ya kuni itria moro irungia mengoni. Wabiha masama suku pia ata mpaka Bwindri adala dusu yahe. Wakati ikuni itria moro izinga shifubaju tsena Dima asiki ikuni itria moro na atrwawa.

They clapped and clapped. When they clapped Owl's necklace of fire sticks swayed back and forth. Dima tried to grab the necklace of fire sticks but at that moment Owl spun the necklace so that the fire sticks hung on his back. They clapped all day until Owl forgot about the fire sticks. When the fire sticks spun back around onto his chest around onto his chest Dima grabbed the firesticks and ran away.



Bwindri na wadjemazahe wamdungu Dima be Dima ana mpango ndjema kamwe. Ana mubwa mengi poshoni na aivutsa ndziani mengoni. Imubwa iziya Bwindri na wadjemazahe. Kawashindra huviri mubwa ndziani.

Owl and his family chased Dima, but Dima had a clever plan. He had many thorns in his pockets and he threw them onto the path behind him. The thorns stopped Owl and his family from. They were not able to cross the thorns on the path.

Dima ajiviwa swafi huvudza moro. Akitsa yikuni ya tria moro. Avea na avea ka na atria duvu ihumiswa ata mpaka imoro gatiti ija. Imoro itendra na ivudza ishamba pia na weu wa moro ija. Kula wakati imoro ivudzu mwiri mpia Dima arongoa, "Rangu leo wantru watsoshindra hu vudzu moro na kula mwiri duniani."

Dima was very excited to make fire. He rubbed and rubbed the fire sticks. He blew and blew the ember put some dry grass until a small flame appeared. The fire grew and lit the whole field on fire and there was much firelight. Each time the flames set a new tree on fire, Dima said, "From today on people will be able to make a fire with each tree on earth."



Wakati nyennnngi waviri. Wakati Dima aregea numba ya Bwindri apara mwanantsa mtrubaba moja tu. Waye asingadza na wana wa mwiri. Dima amdzisa umwanantsa unu, "Wanye ukadza maji de havi?" Umwanantsa amonesha Dima jarkoni mlibwavu swafi ijaya na maji. Dima andrisha hu endra dagoni be wakati awono mwanantsa asiteza tsena aregea jarkoni. Dima asukumu ijarkon ata ipuha na maji pia iabuka

A long time passed. When Dima returned to Owl's house he found only a little boy. He was playing with a wooden doll. Dima asked the boy, "Where do you all keep the water?" The boy showed him to a huge jug full of water. Dima started to go home, but when he saw the boy playing again he returned to the huge jug. Dima pushed the jug until it fell and all the water flowed out





Dima ayoha na aviri maji asishuka. Maji asishuka swafi na itendra ata mpaka ika mro. Dima atrawa tsena na Bwindri kashindra humpara.

Dima jumped over the flowing water. The water flowed even more until it became a river. Then Dima ran away again and Owl could not find him.



Ini de mana leo rina mro ijaya ya maji. Ini de mana leo rina lijuwa, umwezi, na moro, mana de Dima mgangi.

This is why the whole earth has rivers full of water today. This is why we have the sun, moon and fire, because of Dima the trickster.

In 2003, Katunga Carimbwe told this version of the Dima and Owl origin story to Titu Mangumbu and Marlene Winberg in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa while he was busy painting on a canvas.

Mangumbu, Mahongo and Winerg translated it and retold the story in this written version with as few alterations as possible. His elders told the story to him during his childhood in Mavinga, Angola, where he was born in 1958. Most of the episodes in the Dima and Owl myth have a wide distribution in the extensive area of southern Africa and the Kalahari whose original inhabitants speak !Xun and other closely related languages, although the names and identities of the trickster, Dima, and his adversary change from area to area.

The “clapping game” mentioned in our version, Dima and Owl, is still current among the !xun, the Nharo, and possibly other communities of Kalahari San. This story depicts Dima as a culture hero and transformer of the primeval world into the present world. He achieves this with words, "From now on people will be able to make a fire with each tree on earth."

The Manyeka Arts Trust holds a !Xun audio telling of this story by Meneputo Mnaunga Maneka in archive.

The illustrations in this story are from story boards by Marlene Winberg.

**Samahani, nahika uwono nkosa, awu  
usitsaha shiyo shangina, awu una fikira  
la hwangiha shiyo... tafadhwali  
unambie harimwa:**

**pcvcwhcomoros@gmail.com**

**If you see any mistakes, want another  
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**pcvcwhcomoros@gmail.com**

**Marahaba ivo wasoma!**

**Thanks for reading!**

**Cam - Bako Mkoni**