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Basilio Gimó, David Ker



**Poukisa Ipopotam pa gen plim  
sou kò yo / Why hippos have no hair**

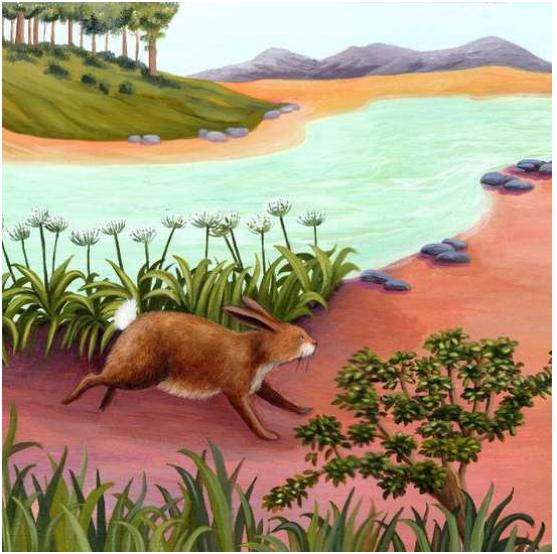
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hair  
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Yon jou, Lapen tap mache bò yon rivyè.

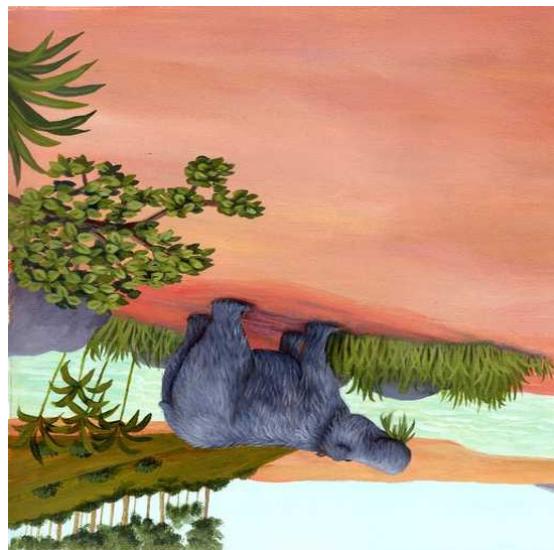
...

One day, Rabbit was walking by the riverside.

Hippo was there too, going for a stroll  
and eating some nice green grass.

...

Ipo te la tou, li tap flannen enpi li tap  
chacche bel zéb vét.





Ipo pat wè Lapen, li mache sou pye li  
san'l pa konnen. Lapen tonbe rele  
"Anmwey Ipo ! Ou pa wè ou fèk pile'm?"  
...

Hippo didn't see that Rabbit was there  
and she accidentally stepped on  
Rabbit's foot. Rabbit started screaming  
at Hippo, "You Hippo! Can't you see that  
you're stepping on my foot?"



Ipo pete kriye, li kouri nan dlo a. Tout  
plim sou tèt li te gen tan boule. Ipo  
kontinye kriye, "tout plim tèt mwen  
boule nan dife a! Bèl plim sa yo !"  
...

Rabbit was happy that Hippo's hair was  
burned. And to this day, for fear of fire,  
the hippo never goes far from the  
water.

Hippo apologised to Rabbit, "I'm so sorry. I didn't see you. Please forgive me!" But Rabbit wouldn't listen and he shouted at Hippo, "You did that on purpose! Someday, you'll see! You're going to pay!"

...

Ipo eskize li bo kote Lapen. Li di li "Eskize,m, mwén pate wé ou, tanpri padonnen,m!" Men, Lapen pa koute,l, li tonbe relé pifò "Ou fè eskpre! You jou, wap wé! Wap peye sa a!"



Hippo started to cry and ran for the water. All her hair was burned off by the fire. Hippo kept crying, "My hair has burned in the fire! My hair is all gone! My beautiful hair!"

...

Ipo pete kriye, li kouri nan dlo a. Tout plim sou tét li te gen tan boule. Ipo koutinye kriye, "tout plim tét mwén boule nan dife aj! Bel plim sa yo !"

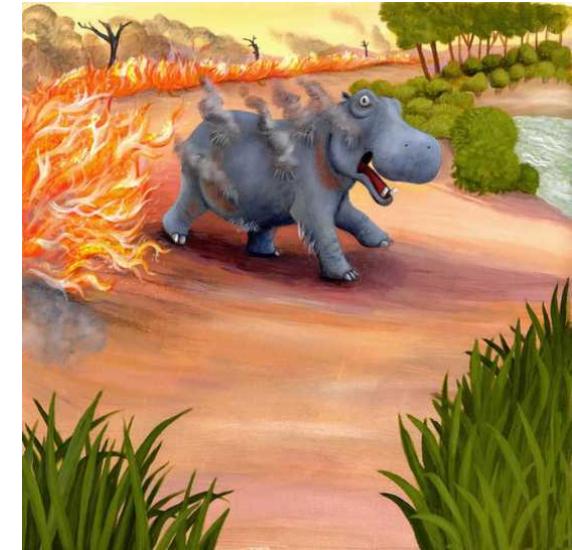




Lapen ale jwenn dife pou'l di li, "Ale mete dife sou Ipo lè li soti nan dlo a pou'l manje zèb ... Li pile'm!" Dife an reponn, "Pa gen pwoblèm Lapen, zanmi mwen, mwen pral fè sa ou mande mwen la a".

...

Rabbit went to find Fire and said, "Go, burn Hippo when she comes out of the water to eat grass. She stepped on me!" Fire answered, "No problem, Rabbit, my friend. I'll do just what you ask."



Yon lòt lè, Ipo tap manje zèb byen lwen bò rivyè a. Dife pete Woush!" enpi gwo flanm kòmanse boule plim Ipo.

...

Later, Hippo was eating grass far from the river when, "Whoosh!" Fire burst into flame. The flames began to burn Hippo's hair.