

Pam-Pam tzama Pam-Pam bird



✎ Traditional San story
🔗 Manyeka Arts Trust
📄 Gǃkǃao J. B. Kxao, Tsemkxao Cwi
🗣️ 4
🗣️ en / English / kǃz



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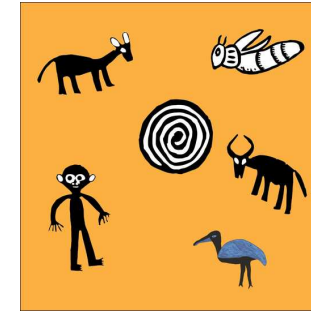
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Pensa koh o !aqekxao n!a'an ko Kalahari khoea. Ha koh tani tsia tju|ho ko !ha sa tcin ka n̄ai 'm ha juasi. Te tzama n|ui koh ge, he o ha Pam-Pam te Pensa koh kare ha gu. ||'A tzama g!ohm |kuiasi ko kaice jan |'an ko tchisi du. Te tih koh o ha sin |oa xoana Pam-Pam ||xau ka ||'ang. Pensa ||'a ha tchisi ku n!om g!a'ama ɬoan n|a'an ko tzama – te ha koh sin kare ka ha koh ||'ang Pam-Pam he ɬhoe ha g!ohm !kuiasi!

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Pensa was the best hunter in the whole Kalahari Desert. He brought home fat animals and fed his family well. There was this bird, the Pam-Pam bird, which Pensa wanted to catch. The bird's tail feathers were perfect for his arrows. The problem was, he could never manage to trap or shoot Pam-Pam. Pensa's arrows would fly through the air just like a bird - if only he could catch Pam-Pam and pull out his tail feathers!



G|ua to'a n|omkxao ||kae||kae ju te ttxai n|ang |'an khoara sia o !aqekxao sa Pam-Pam tzama ga. ||Ama ||'a ||'aea !aqekxao woaqnsi ||a'ike ku sin ɬ'ang n̄oahn o Pam-Pam tzama, te n̄oahn ka ko si da'abi si ko n̄ai ɬ'anga |amsa koh ɬaun.

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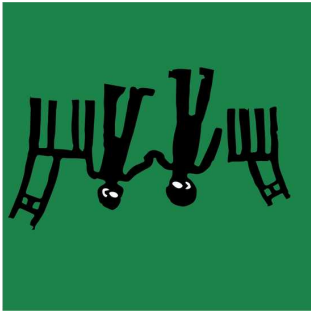
That night, the healer led the people in a fire dance to celebrate the hunter's success and Pam-Pam bird's freedom. And since that day, all the good hunters remember the story of the Pam-Pam bird, to tell their children as a memory of days gone by.



Pensa ua tju!ho te cete glae du tchi zessin. Te ll'aea ju ce ku se tchisi, sia are: "Ooh se iagekxao ha tjin lai kxui, Pam-Pam tzama ll'a ha ikuisa gee ha tchisi! llama lama he ha ll'rike ku llau iage ka tani 'm jansin: E glae kxae 'm ll'kae."

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Pensa went home and made new arrows. When the people saw his new arrows, they exclaimed: "O-o, look at this hunter! He carries the Pam-Pam bird's feathers in his arrows. Now he will hunt well and bring us good food. We shall have a feast!"



Pensa ua i'hoan kxae, f'ang he o sia n'omkxao. Ha g'fara hui. "A xom n'ang totoa mi ko tca ju oo ll'anga tzama he o Pam-Pam ko ka ju ll'xau ha. Mi kare ha ikuisi ll'koa |xoa ko mi n'iaoh kosin mi tchisi. Mi re noun dua ka ll'ang ha?" Te n'omkxao mania ha te ko. "U n'ang glae du da'a." Te ll'aea tci |kain |kain wece iaah g'ia da'a tzi, a f'aun n'hu ka mhi tsea. ll'xau |xoa ll'a tci |kain |kainhmsa. Kain man! Pam-Pam f'angsi.

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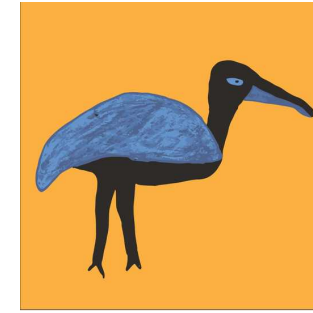
Pensa went to the wise man, their healer. He asked for help. "Please guide me to catch the Pam-Pam bird. I need his feathers for my bow and arrows. What must do to catch him?" The healer replied, "Go and make a fire. When all the insects run away from your fire, you must catch the smallest of them. Make a trap and place this little insect inside your trap. It will tempt the Pam-Pam bird."



Pensa koh |oa !'han tca Pam-Pam sa n|omkxao te o ɤarasi. Pam-Pam ||'ae gesin ha |'ho n|hmkxao. Sa ge ka |'an khoe ko nɤoahnsi. "Mi nɤai ɤxai a," n|hmkxao koe n||ae ko ||'aea Pam-Pam |'ho ha. "Mi koh !oa !aqekxao ko tca ha oo ||'anga a ko ||xau. Ka a hoa da'a ko tzi, a ɤ'aun n!om nɤau koa ɤxan. Mi se ka ko itsa n|uia nere tahn."

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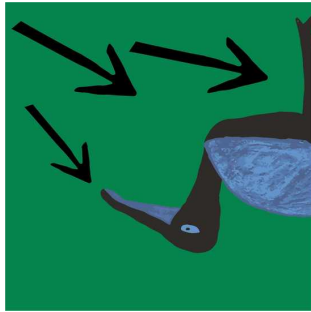
Pensa did not know that the healer and the Pam-Pam bird were friends. Pam-Pam often visited the healer. They exchanged stories. "I warn you," said the healer when Pam-Pam bird visited him, "I have told the hunter how to catch you. When you see a fire in the veld, you must fly far away. I want to see which one of you will win."



Pensa n||ah Pam-Pam. Te ka Pam-Pam tsin he ku nɤoah u, ha ɤ'ang, "Mi re koma sin |'ae koqe te u?"

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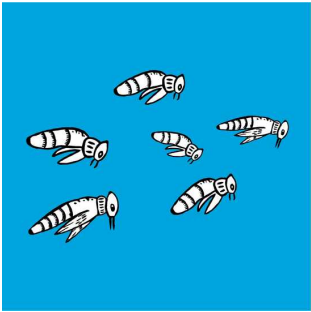
Pensa let Pam-Pam go. As Pam-Pam walked away, he thought, "Am I really free?"



Pam-Pam tsama ku 'au, "ka a ihun mi o kaa a
 ||'a'ike |oa ceka ho |kui gesin sa a g||aoa a tchisi. ko
 ||'aea ka sa ge kxuia, khama mi n|a |ai. Sin n||ah mi
 n|ang kahin mi sin |xoana n|ang |'an a ko |kui ko
 n|ui g|ainsi wece."

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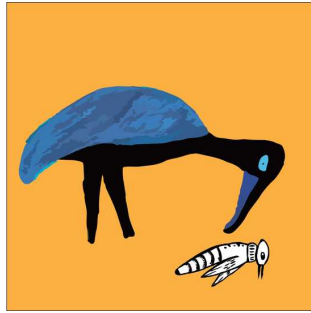
Pam-Pam bird screeched, "If you kill me you will
 have no more feathers for your arrow when these
 are worn out, because I will be dead. Set me free
 and I promise to give you new feathers with each
 full moon."



Te ||'aeman|angsi, Pensa cocoa te |aqe Pam-Pam
 tzama. Ha n|anga tzi te n||an||ari da'a |aihansi. Te
 ||'aea g|ioh ma ku g|ai, ha dchun |hara da'ko ||'a'isi
 sa soahn te da'a dhari ma kua du da'a. Te tci |kain
 |kainsa ge n||omi da'a dharisi ko niom du, te Pensa
 n||uri te gua n|homa ko ||'akoa. Ha |ua ha ko ||xau
 n|ang.

...

In the meantime, Pensa started his hunt for the
 Pam-Pam bird. He sat in the veld and rubbed and
 rubbed his fire sticks. When the smoke appeared,
 he blew into the fine grass around his fire sticks,
 until the little flame appeared and became a fire.
 The insects around the flaming grass flew away,
 but Pensa managed to catch a young
 grasshopper. He put it into his trap.



Te Pam-Pam tzama |u g|ae kaqm n̄ohm ma gea Pensa ||xau n!ang. Te ha kua ||'ae ha te sin n!om tca di'i ka ḡae tsxatsxabi |xoā ha zuhn. Pensa ku tsa'a Pam-Pam oo tjian. "Pam-Pam, Pam-Pam, Pam-Pam, Pam-Pam, Pam." Pensa !aah ua ha ||xau khoea. Te tzama koh ||'ang!

...

The Pam-Pam bird could not resist the juicy young grasshopper in Pensa's trap. He decided to fly down and grab it quickly with his sharp beak. Pensa heard Pam-Pam bird's cry, "Pam-pam, pam-pam, pam-pam." Pensa ran to his trap. The bird was trapped!



Pam-Pam tzama |xom Pensa n|ang kxoe ha khoara ha. "Ooh 'an'an," Pensa koe n||ae, "Mi kxoā a ko ||'aea n!obe ḡa'in. A ||aike o mi ma! A !kuisi ku oo ka mi tchisi ku n!om g!a'ma n|a'an, †oa a."

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Pam-Pam bird begged Pensa to set him free. "Oh no," said Pensa, "I have wanted to catch you for a very long time. Today you are mine! Your feathers will make my arrow fly through the air, just like you."