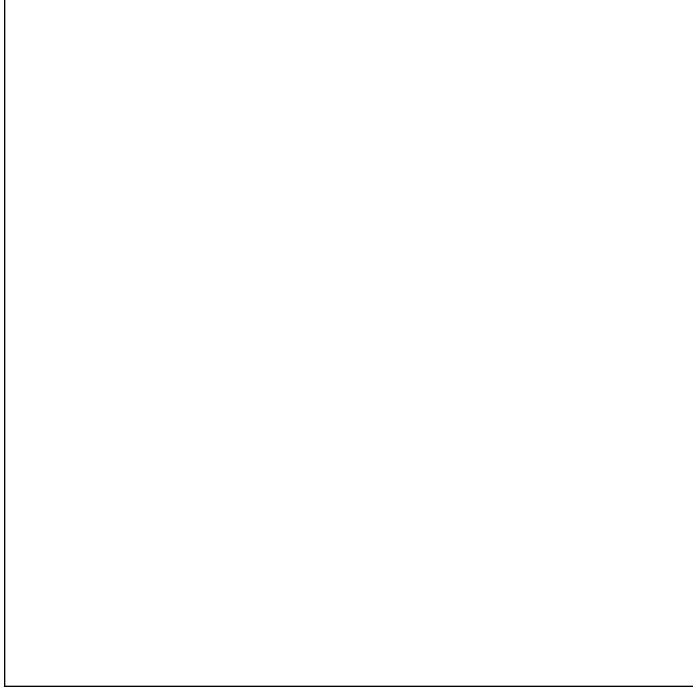




wa'Ngoko oko na W'isamba

Hen and Eagle



Ann Nduku 

Wiehan de Jager 

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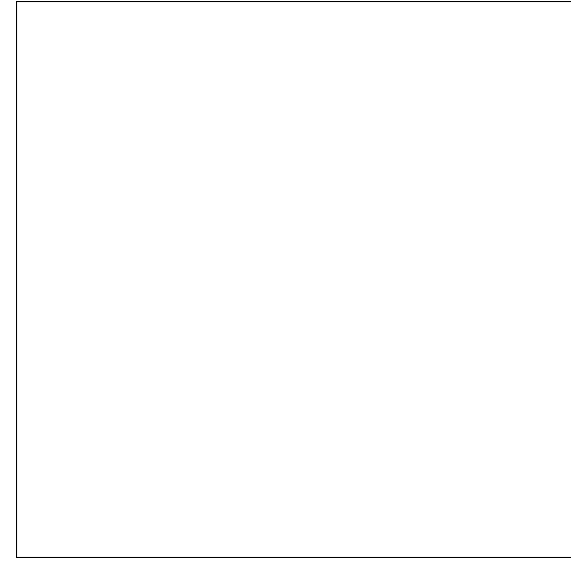




Kera kera, iya wa'Ngoko na w'Isamba babya banywani. Kandi babya bikere n'obuholho nebindi binyonyi. Aliriryo wa'Ngoko na w'Isamba sibyabya byasi eriwulhuka.

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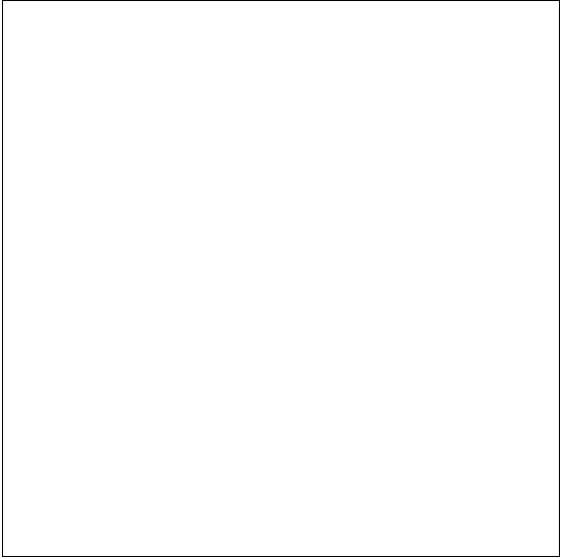
Once upon a time, Hen and Eagle were friends. They lived in peace with all the other birds. None of them could fly.



wa'Ngoko akabya akalhangira ekitsutsu kyebipupa bya w'Isamba, neryo akapwirira othwana thwiwe, thubisame omwabithi kusangwa w'Isamba akendithuheka. Othwana natho thukabugha thuthi, "nethu sithuli bakyiro, thukendithibitha".

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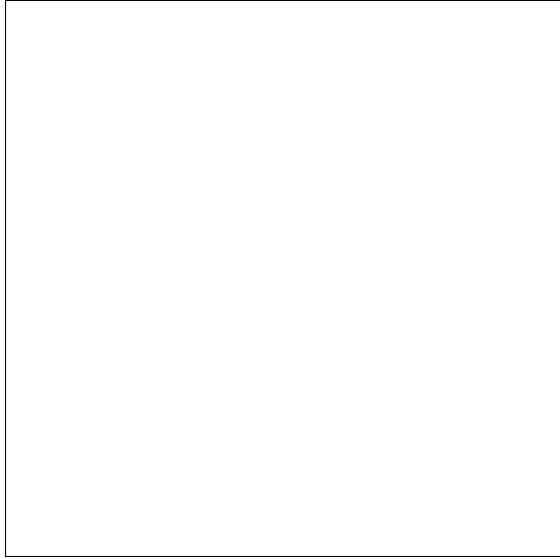
As the shadow of Eagle's wing falls on the ground, Hen warns her chicks. "Get out of the bare and dry land." And they respond: "We are not fools. We will run."



Kiro kighuma, enzalha muyawa omwakiugho.
 W'Isamba inyakaghenda Ihughendo Ihuli
 eriondia akalyo. Erisamba irikasubulha
 iryabirihuha. "Nikwa ibwa hanatholere ihabya
 enzira eyerighenderamu" w'Isamba
 mwalengekania.

...

One day, there was famine in the land. Eagle
 had to walk very far to find food. She came back
 very tired. "There must be an easier way to
 travel!" said Eagle.



w'Isamba abere akasubulha ekiro kyakabiri,
 akasangana wa'Ngoko inyanemukwesa
 omusenyi akarondia enginzo. Neryo enginzo
 muyithabanika. W'Isamba mwawulhuka
 neryabakulha akana kawuma okwathwana
 thwe'ngoko. Neryo kyalekire bulikiro erisamba
 likabya likabanika ahali esyangoko, sikasangawa
 isinemukwesa sikarondia enginzo yabene.

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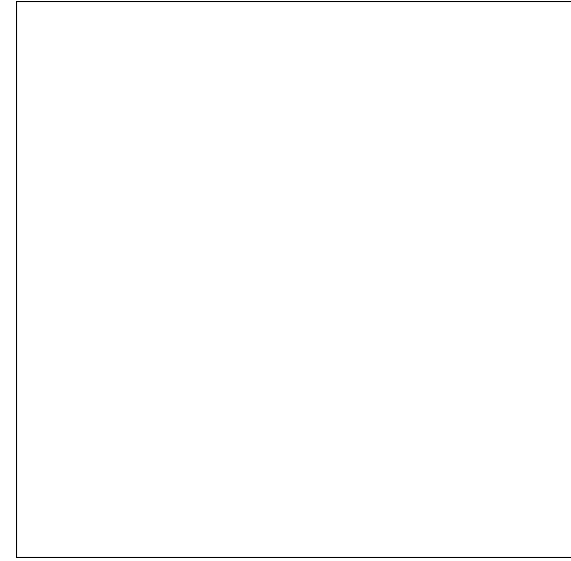
When Eagle came the next day, she found Hen
 scratching in the sand, but no needle. So Eagle
 flew down very fast and caught one of the
 chicks. She carried it away. Forever after that,
 whenever Eagle appears, she finds Hen
 scratching in the sand for the needle.



Wankoko abere akabuka amasa nekihanulho. Amatsuka erisorokya ebyeya ebikathoghonga okwasindi nyonyi. Neryo amabwirasyo athi, “tulhandikanaye ebyeya neribiwathikania okwabyethu” wa’Ngoko amahanulha, “obundi byanganaleka ithwa wulhuka”

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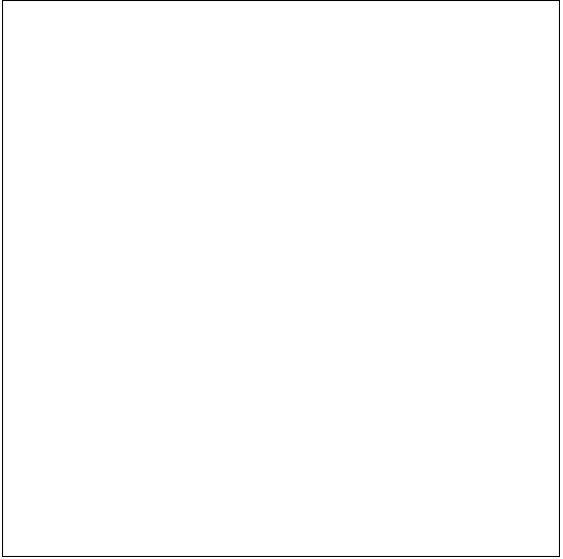
After a good night’s sleep, Hen had a brilliant idea. She began collecting the fallen feathers from all their bird friends. “Let’s sew them together on top of our own feathers,” she said. “Perhaps that will make it easier to travel.”



“Thasamba kiro kiwuma” wa’Ngooko akayisengerezaya w’Isamba. Ngendibanayo neryo wangabazirira ebyeya byaghu neriyarondia ebindi byalya. “Kale basi, kiro kiwuma kisa”, w’Isamba amaligha. “Wamabirilemwa iribana enginzo yaghe, ukendimbererya kawuma okwathwana thwaghu mwandihi yenginzo yaghe. Sihali kabusa.

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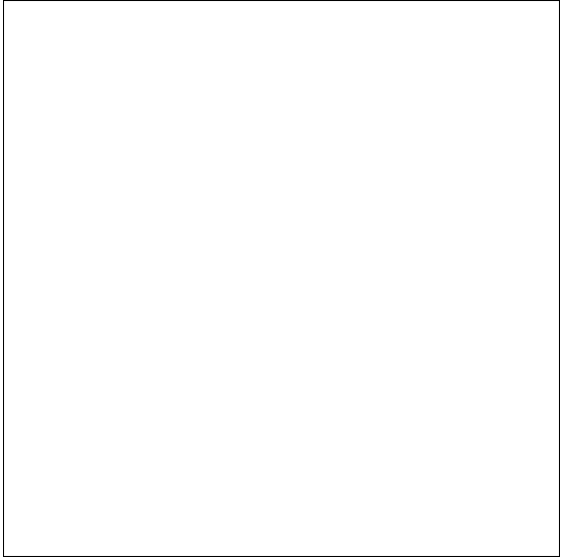
“Just give me a day,” Hen begged Eagle. “Then you can fix your wing and fly away to get food again.” “Just one more day,” said Eagle. “If you can’t find the needle, you’ll have to give me one of your chicks as payment.”



w'Isamba yowanabya awithe enginzo
 eyikalhanda, neryo mwatsuka eriyihandira
 kwebye. W'Isamba mwayikohera ebipupa
 bibiri ebyowene, neryo amawuhuka
 omwamwanya halli. W'Ngoko nayo neryo
 amayibweka enginzo neryo amatsuka erihanda,
 ibwa neryo amalhaha. W'Ngoko amasingha
 enginzo yokwa kabada akathibitha omwa
 kyitsumbyo eriyahukira othwana thwive.

...

Eagle was the only one in the village with a
 needle, so she started sewing first. She made
 herself a pair of beautiful wings and flew high
 above Hen. Hen borrowed the needle but she
 soon got tired of sewing. She left the needle on
 the cupboard and went into the kitchen to
 prepare food for her children.



Omwithungyi, w'Isamba amasubuha. Amasaba
 enginzo yiwe akathasyalhanda neribazirira
 ebye bawe ebyabya ibyabirimumsunukalhako
 habw'ohughendo lhuili. wa'Ngoko mwalebya
 okwa kabada ahababya bakabikayo, siyirihoi!
 Amalebya kyitsumbyo, siyiriyoy, amalebya
 n'omwabalazi, namo yamabya isiyirimo.
 Enginzo neryo yamabullirana.

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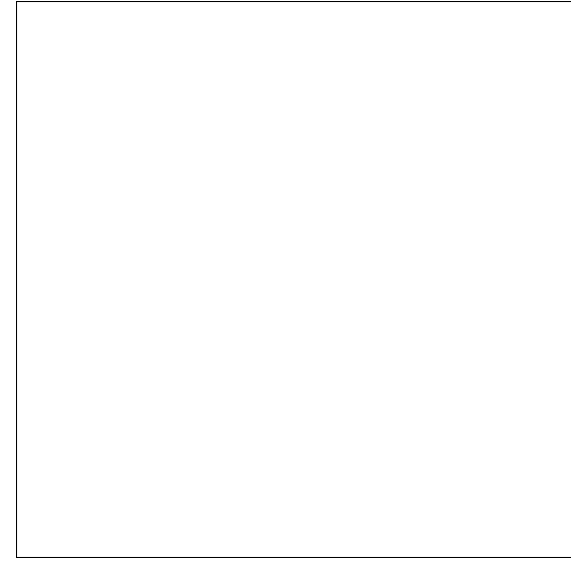
Later that afternoon, Eagle returned. She asked
 for the needle to fix some feathers that had
 loosened on her journey. Hen looked on the
 cupboard. She looked in the kitchen. She looked
 in the yard. But the needle was nowhere to be
 found.



Ebindi binyonyi byabere byalangira iya w'Isamba akawulhuka omwamwanya, mubyasaba wa'Ngoko yenginzo nabyo byangayikolera ebipupa. Neryo kathuku kake, enbinyonyi byamatsuka erisulha omwamwanya neriwulhuka.

...

But the other birds had seen Eagle flying away. They asked Hen to lend them the needle to make wings for themselves too. Soon there were birds flying all over the sky.



Neryo enyonyi eyawunzerera erihanda yabere yikasubulya enginzo, muyithasangana wa'Ngoko yahakuhi. Muyasighira enginzo y'obwana bwa wa'Ngoko. Neryo bwamatsuka erisatha omwanginzo, bwabere bwalhuha erisatha, bwamasighayo omwamusenyi.

...

When the last bird returned the borrowed needle, Hen was not there. So her children took the needle and started playing with it. When they got tired of the game, they left the needle in the sand.