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Mga Batang Sera / Children of wax

Southern African Folktale
Wiehan de Jager
Arlene Avila (tl)

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Mga Batang Sera

Children of wax

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Tagalog tl / English en

Noong unang panahon, may isang masayang mag-anak.

. . .

Once upon a time, there lived a happy family.

Pawang mga lalaki ang mga anak at hindi sila kailanman nag-aaway. Tinutulungan nila ang kanilang magulang sa bukid at sa gawaing-bahay.

. . .

They never fought with each other. They helped their parents at home and in the fields.

Malaya nilang nagagawa ang anuman, maliban sa isang bagay. Hindi sila maaaring lumapit sa apoy.

. . .

But they were not allowed to go near a fire.

At sabay ng pagsikat ng araw, lumipad ang ibon tungo sa liwanag ng araw, na may awit na taglay.

. . .

And as the sun rose, he flew away singing into the morning light.

Sa gabi lamang sila nagtatrabaho dahil sila ay mga sera!

. . .

They had to do all their work during the night. Because they were made of wax!

Ngunit pinangarap ng isa na makita ang araw.

. . .

But one of the boys longed to go out in the sunlight.

Dinala nila ang ibon sa tuktok ng bundok.

. . .

They took their bird brother up to a high mountain.

Kaya gumawa sila ng paraan upang matupad ang kanyang pangarap. Sama sama nilang hinubog ang serang labi ng kapatid at ginawa itong ibon.

. . .

But they made a plan. They shaped the lump of melted wax into a bird.

Isang umaga, hindi niya nalabanan ang matinding pag-aasam. Pinigilan siya ng kanyang mga kapatid...

. . .

One day the longing was too strong. His brothers warned him...

Subalit huli na ang lahat! Siya ay nalusaw na ng mainit na araw.

. . .

But it was too late! He melted in the hot sun.

Labis na nalungkot ang mga batang sera sa nakitang dinanas ng kapatid.

. . .

The wax children were so sad to see their brother melting away.