



## Thinyunyi Pam-Pam

### Pam-Pam bird

 Traditional San story

 Manyeka Arts Trust, Pensa Limungu, Kapilolo Mahongo,  
Marlene Winberg

 Ruthgela Shawanga

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 Mbukushu mhw / English en



Pensa gha karire mushani shokuru muMamboreya gho maheya ghaKalahari. Nga karetanga maghadhi gho yiyama mukukorera didhiko dyendi. Pothidi thinyunyi tha karire, thinyunyi Pam-Pam, othi gha shanine Pensa kukwata. Muthira ghothinyunyi thi wakarire ghuwa thikuma mukutenditha maghonga ghendi. Ene ghukukutu wakarire, mbadi ngakonanga kuteya ngambi nga kukondha Pam-Pam. Maghonga gha Pensa nga gha tukanga vene mumupepo yira thinyunyi - ngo gha kukwate ngenyu Pam-Pam no kudjupa muthira wendi!

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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!



Pensa gha yendire kwa nganga, mwiruri wawo. Aye gha rombire maghamweno. “Nakanderera nighamwene mukukwata thinyunyi Pam-Pam. Nanyanda ghuhuki wendi nakutenditheko ndamba no maghonga ghange. Yinu munye sho nitende ni mukwate. Nganga gha huthire, “Yende ghu kakonyere mudiro. Apa sho yi keye yimbumburu kumudiro, wakona kukwata totumbirupo. Katende thiraha no kutura tumbumburu tu muthiraha. Ato mbo tuna yereka thinyunyi Pam-Pam.

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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 mbadi gha dimukire eshi nganga yu nathinyunyi Pam-Pam ne haka ghushere. Awo nga ha vukurekanga. “Kuna kukukonekitha,” gha ghambire nganga apa tha ka mudhingure thinyunyi Pam-Pam, Natongwera thiyambi edi gho kukukwata. Opa wa kumona mudiro mumapembe ne wakutuke wakutjire. Nashana kumona eshi yidye gha kuwina pakatji kenu.”

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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.”



Muruvedhe rorufupi, Pensa gha tangire kushana thinyunyi Pam-Pam. Gha hungumanine mumapembe no ghatakire nokutaka tutondo twendi to mudiro. Apa wa monekire mwithi, gha fudherire muhonyi kututondo tu to muhonyi, kate wa tumbukire mudiro. Yimbumburu eyi ya karire mumuhonyi ya tukire, ene Pensa kwa konine ngenyu kukwata ka mbathi-mbathi kokambiru. Gha katurire muthiraha thendi.

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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.



Thinyunyi Pam-Pam mbadi tha konine konine kushwena kambathimbathighana koghutowi muthiraha tha Pensa. Aye gha tokore mukutukera pamuve no kuna katjombora wanguwangu no muromowendi gho kundjumburuka. Pensa gha yuvirediywi dya Pam-Pam gha kudira. “Pam-pam, pam-pam, pam-pam.” Pensa gha tjirere kuthiraha thendi. Thinyunyi tha rwire muthiraha!

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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 gha kanderere Pensa ghasa gha mushuture. “Aghu ca,” gha ghambire Pensa, “karekare natanga kushana kukukwata. Dyarero ne gho wange “Ghuhuki ghoye nanyi wakutendethe maghonga ghange gha tukange mumupepo, yira yowe.

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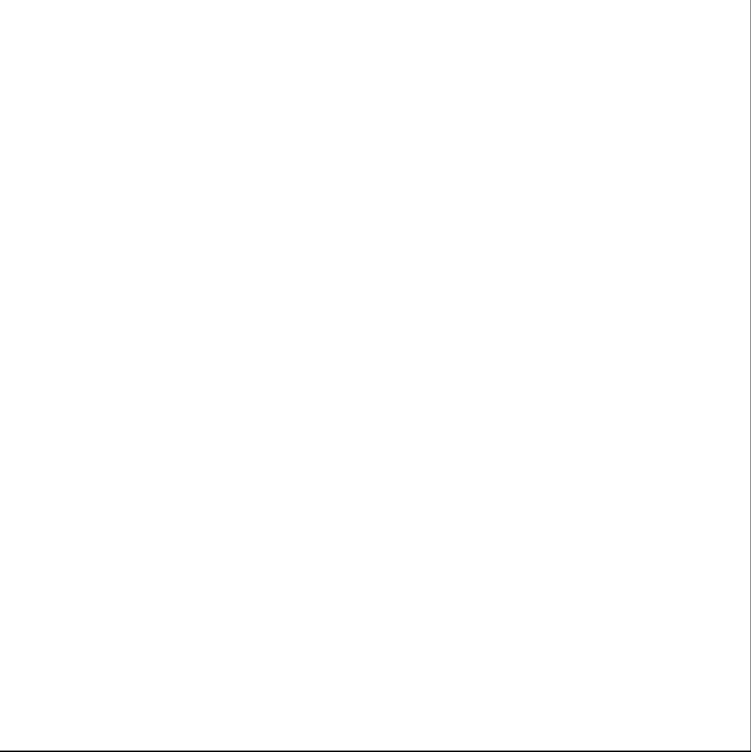
Pam-Pam bird begged Pensa to set him free. “Oh no,” said Pensa, “I have wanted to catch you for a very long time. Today you are mine! Your feathers will make my arrow fly through the air, just like you.”



Pam-Pam gha kugherire ghughamba, “Ngeshi ghunipaye mbadi wakukara karo no ghu ghuhuki gho maghonga ghoye opa gha kudjovoka, yoyishi nanyi nife. Nishuture no kuna kukukuruperitha eshi nikupange ghuhuki ghoghupya kehe kaghonda.

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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.”



Pensa gha shuturire Pam-Pam. Opa gha yendire Pam-Pam kokayenda, gha ghayarire, “Nashutuka me yoshemwa ndi?”

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



Pensa gha yendire kudimbo no katenda maghonga ghomapya. Apa hamonine hanu maghonga ghendi ha kugherire: Mawe, mone koyu thiyambi! Aye kutenditha ghuhuki gho Pam-Pam maghonga ghendi. Kenge nanyi twa kashane thiwana no kareta yidya yoyiwa. Nanyi twa kukare nomukandi!”

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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!”



Ghuthiku ghu, nganga gha turithirepo yikina yo kumudiro mukushamberera yitombora ya thiyambi no yishutura ya Pam-Pam. Kutunda diyuwa diya, yiyambi yoyiwa kuvuruka thithimwa tha Pam-Pam, mukuthimwetwedha hanawo mumavurukero gho mayuwa ghana kapita.

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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.



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