

## Tiga Bersaudara

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Dahulu ada raja kaya. Bapaknya kaya sekali. Anaknya ada tiga. Tiga bersaudara itu manja sekali. Waktu meréka sudah besar, apa keinginan anak-anaknya itu, dituruti ayahnya. Sampai besar mereka masih tetap manja.

Sesudah itu ayahnya meninggal. Tinggal ibunya. Tidak lama kemudian, meninggal pula ibunya. Mereka itu kaya sekali. Harta banyak. Karena biasa manja, mereka tidak mau bekerja. Apa saja ada di tempatnya. Misalnya, ladangnya lebar, tapi uangnya cuma sedikit. Jadi mereka jual ladang. Sesudah menjual ladang, uang penjualan cepat habis. Mereka jual pula isi perabot rumahnya yang lain. Rumahnya banyak. Kemudian tidak ada lagi tempatnya. Rumahnya sendiri dijual. Harta meréka habis.

## How Three Lost Children Found their Way Home

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Once there was a rich king. This man was very wealthy. He had three children. They were spoiled in the worst way. When they were growing up, whatever his children wanted, their father gave in to them. As they grew older, they became more spoiled.

Then their father died, leaving their mother behind. After a little while, their mother also died. They were extremely wealthy. They had lots of capital. Because they were spoiled, they did not want to work. They had everything in their estate. For example, their fields were vast, but money became scarce. So they sold farmland. After selling land, soon the money from the land sales was gone. They also sold several other properties. They owned many houses. Pretty soon those places were gone, too. They sold the house they lived in. Their wealth was gone.

Tiga bersaudara ini perempuan semua. Adiknya yang paling kecil itu orangnya penyedih. Dia sering menaséhati tingkah laku kakaknya. Kakaknya tidak mau menuruti perkataannya. Meréka sudah tidak ada lagi harta. Mereka melarat, pergi ke dalam hutan. Waktu mereka melarat di dalam hutan, apa yang dibawahnya hanyalah: parang, palu, linggis. Inilah yang ada pada mereka.

Sampai di dalam hutan, adiknya berkata, "Jangan terlalu jauh, nanti ada binatang buas. Mari kita membuat pondok di sini saja." Kemudian meréka membuat pondoknya di dalam hutan.

Lama mereka tinggal di dalam hutan. Setelah daun puar mengering maka atap pondok bocor. Kata adiknya, "Coba kita pakai daun lalang saja. Daun lalang itu biasanya bagus. Waktu kita masih kaya dulu, anak buah ayah sering membuat atap kandang sapi dengan daun lalang," katanya begitu. Akhirnya mereka membuat pondok dengan atapnya daun lalang.

The three children were all girls. The youngest sister was unhappy. She was frustrated trying to stop the older sisters' behavior. The older sisters refused to listen. They had lost everything. They were destitute, so they went into the forest. Wandering in the forest, what they brought was: a machete, a hammer, and a spade. That's all they had left in the world.

When they got to the forest, the youngest child said, "Let's not go too deep into the forest. There might be wild animals. We had better just make a shelter here, she said." So they made a permanent shelter in the forest.

They lived for a long time in the forest. The palm leaf roof dried out, and the rain leaked in. The little sister said, "Try using *lalang* grass, too. *Lalang* grass is usually good. When we were rich back then, father's laborers often built the roof of our cattle corral using *lalang* grass," she said. So, they made the shelter, with its roof of *lalang* grass, their home.

Ada raja dari Bukit Besar pergi memburu ke dalam hutan itu. Waktu raja berburu, dilihatnya ada pondok di bawah hutan. Terdengar pula suara orang bercakap-cakap. Waktu bercakap-cakap, raja itu mengintip. Didengarkannya apa yang mereka bicarakan.

Kata yang tertua kepada kedua adiknya , “Apa keinginanmu, Dik?

”Lebih baik kakak bilang keinginannya dulu.”

Kata kakak yang tertua, "Saya ingin jadi pembantu raja. Apa saja boléh, tukang masak atau tukang cuci juga boléh,” katanya. "Asal saya makan yang enak, makan ayam, makan apa saja yang ada.”

Sesudah itu berkata yang nomor dua. Katanya, "Saya mengikut kehéndak kakak juga."

An important man from Big Mountain went hunting in that forest. (We shall refer to him as "the king" in this story.) While hunting one day, the king saw a shelter under the forest canopy. He also heard voices of people talking. While they were talking, he overheard everything they said.

The oldest of the three sisters spoke, saying: "What do you want to be, Sisters?"

"It's better if Elder Sister speaks first," they said.

The eldest said, "What I want is to be a servant of a king. Whether it be as a cook or a washerwoman, I would gladly do that!" she said. "At least I would get to eat expensive rice, chicken, and whatever else I wanted."

After that the second one spoke. She said, "I want the same thing my elder sister wants."

"Jika kakak mencuci piring, misalnya, saya menyapu rumah. Jika kakak menyapu rumah, saya mencuci piring. Pokoknya apa kerja kakak, saya menolong. Saya menuruti apa kemauan kakak," kata yang nomor dua.

Setelah itu kakak yang tertua bertanya kepada adiknya yang paling bungsu.

"Apa kehéndak mu, Dik?"

Adiknya menjawab, "Saya ingin jadi isteri raja."

"Kurang ajar kamu ini! Awak jelék, mana kecil héndak jadi isteri raja," kata kakaknya. Dia tidak tahu adiknya yang bungsu itu adalah yang paling cantik dan paling pandai.

Sewaktu raja sedang mengintip tadi, dia mendengar kata-kata mereka, sehingga dia tidak mau berburu lagi. Dia menyelidiki apakah mereka manusia atau mereka itu sétan.

"If elder sister washes dishes, for example, I will sweep the house. If elder sister sweeps the house, I will wash the dishes," she said. "The point is, whatever job my elder sister has, I will help. I will follow whatever elder sister wants," said number two. Finally the eldest put the question to the youngest.

"What do you want to be, Sis?"

The youngest answered, "I want to be the wife of a king."

"What a dunce you are! You are terrible! Baby wants to be a 'Very Important Person'," they said. They didn't realize the youngest sister possessed the most beauty and the most talent. When the king was watching them, and he overheard them talking, it made him stop hunting. He examined whether they were really humans or perhaps forest spirits.

Kemudian dia meletakkan tanda di sekitar pondok itu supaya dia tidak tersesat waktu datang mengulanginya. Sesudah itu raja pulang ke tempatnya lagi.

Tidak lama kemudian, raja datang lagi. Dia diiringi pasukannya. Orang tiga bersaudara itu disergapnya. Sesudah menyergapnya, raja membawa orang tiga itu ke dusunnya. Waktu membawa orang tiga itu, mereka membawanya dengan baik-baik. Bertanya dengan sopan kepada orang tiga itu. Waktu rombongan itu sampai di rumah raja, tiga bersaudara itu disambut orang dusun dengan baik-baik, sama seperti juga raja.

Semua orang dusun bertanya: "Raja ingin menikah dengan yang mana?"

Sesudah itu raja berkata, "Saya ingin menikah dengan salah satu dari bertiga ini, dengan adat istiadat kita, memakai antaran menuruti cara orang Rejang. Mengadakan tarian *kejai* seperti orang biasa merayakannya."

After that he placed markers around the house so he wouldn't get lost when he came back the next time. After that the king went home to his own place.

Some time later, he came back in force. He brought his soldiers. The three sisters were apprehended. After capturing them, they brought the three girls to their village. While transporting the girls, the soldiers treated them respectfully. They interrogated them politely. When they reached the king's residence, the three sisters were welcomed graciously by the townspeople, and by the king himself.

They all asked: "Which one is the king going to marry?"

After that the king said, "I will be married to one of these young women, in our way, with the exchange of gifts, according to our Rejang customs. "We'll hold a *kejai* like people celebrate traditionally," he said.

Waktu raja hendak menikah, ketiga bersaudara berbicara. Kata kakak yang tertua, "Oy, rupanya adik kita betul yang jadi nikah dengan raja ini."

"Kita menurut saja," kata adiknya yang nomor dua. Apa kehendak kita dulu? Kakak hendak jadi tukang cuci piring, kan?"

Raja itu sudah mendengar waktu di pondok itu. Apa lagi dia mau dengan si bungsu, dia cantik sekali. Yang dua disuruhnya jadi tukang masak. Bahan makanan diberikannya, daging ayam, apa saja yang dikehendakinya diberikan.

Now that one of them was about to be married, the three sisters talked among themselves. The oldest sister said, "Oh! Soon baby sister will be married to the king!"

We seem to be following what we said," said the second sister. "What did we say we wanted? Elder Sister wanted to wash dishes or something."

The king had overheard everything at the shelter. Moreover, he preferred the little one, and she was pretty, too. The other two were allowed to become cooks. All kinds of food and rice were given to them, chicken, whatever they wanted was provided.

**Mereka yang menjadi pengasuh anak. Mereka membungkus anak adiknya, lalu meletakkannya di dalam peti hanyutnya di sungai Ketahun.**



Kedua kakaknya itu iri hati melihat adiknya. Sewaktu raja sedang pergi ke negri lain, adiknya melahirkan. Anaknya yang lahir itu adalah laki-laki. Kakaknya berdua itu tambah iri melihat adiknya ini. Mereka yang menjadi pengasuh anak. Mereka membungkus anak adiknya, lalu meletakkan di dalam peti dan menghanyutnya di sungai Ketahun.

Setelah jauh anak itu hanyut ke hilir, ditemukan oleh orang tua yang sedang pergi ke sungai. "Apa itu?" katanya. "Ada peti tersangkut di air bulak sana. Mungkin itu barang pakaian orang yang hanyut. Mungkin ada rumah orang hanyut?"

Sesudah itu dia mengambil, dibawanya peti itu. Setelah sampai di rumah tempat tinggalnya, dia membuka peti. Waktu dia membuka, dilihatnya ada bayi di dalam itu sedang tertawa, laki-laki. Sesudah itu, bayi itu diberi nama.

The two older sisters were rather upset when they looked at their little sister. While the king was away in another district, his wife gave birth. Born to her was a baby boy. Out of jealousy toward their sister, the two aunts offered themselves as nursemaids. They bundled the child up. After bundling it up, they put it in a wooden box and floated it down the Ketaun River.

Drifting, the box was swept a long way downstream where it was recovered by an old couple going to the river. "What kind of thing is that?" they said. The box had gotten stuck on something. "Are those somebody's clothes washed down? Maybe somebody's house got swept away," they said.

So they fetched the box and brought it home. When they got to the house, to the place where they lived, they opened it. Inside they saw a baby laughing, a boy. After that, they gave the baby a name.

Namanya Ujang. Karena orang tua itu tidak mempunyai anak, sayang sekali mereka dengan Ujang itu. Setelah anak itu besar, mereka mengajarnya. Diajarnya sama seperti cara orang lain mengajar anaknya sendiri.

Jadi kembali cerita kita kepada kedua kakaknya yang membuang bayi laki-laki itu dulu. Mereka menggantikannya dengan anak anjing. Jadi, waktu raja pulang, kedua perempuan tadi, kakaknya itu, berkata kepada raja, “Oy, Raja! Adik kami melahirkan, anaknya anjing!”

Raja terkejut. “Masa!” katanya. “Masa perempuan manusia melahirkan anak anjing! Itu tidak bisa kita katakan!”

Kata kedua kakaknya itu, “Kami tidak pernah meninggalkan adik. Entahlah mengapa semuanya ini di dalam kehendak Tuhan? Adik kita melahirkan anak anjing.”

They named him Ujang. Because they had no children, they were very happy to have Ujang. As he grew up they taught him everything, They taught him the way other people teach their own children.

Now we return to the scene of the two older sisters abandoning the baby. They exchanged him with baby dog, a puppy. So, when the king returned, the two women, the older sisters, said to the king, "Oh, Your Majesty!" they said. "Our little sister has given birth. Her child is a dog!"

The king was stunned. "Impossible!" he said. "It's impossible for a human female to give birth to a dog," he said. "We shouldn't even be talking about it," said the king.

The two sisters said, "We never left our sister's side. Who knows why God works in mysterious ways?" they said. "Our little sister gave birth to a dog."

Raja ini benci sekali, hatinya panas. Cuma dia tidak bisa mengatakannya, karena dia menyangka anjing itu betul-betul anaknya. Karena itulah dia memelihara baik-baik anjing itu.

Banyak rakyat mencaci-maki. "Raja itu anaknya anjing." Tetapi raja tidak peduli. Dia acuh tak acuh.

Sesudah berapa lama, sewaktu isterinya itu sedang hamil, seperti biasa raja pergi lagi. Sedang pergi, raja tidak ada di rumah waktu istrinya melahirkan lagi. Anaknya itu laki-laki lagi. Sesudah dia melahirkan bayi itu, kedua kakaknya itu berbuat seperti yang dahulu lagi. Bayi laki-laki itu diletakkannya di dalam peti, dibungkus baik-baik, dan dihanyutkan di sungai.

Tidak lama sesudah itu, raja pulang. Mereka berdua berkata bahwa adiknya sudah melahirkan lagi. Kata mereka, anak kucing. Raja bertambah benci saja. "Mustahil!" katanya. "Sudah dua kali melahirkan, pertama anjing, kedua kucing."

The king was upset. He was angry, but he couldn't say anything because it was his own offspring—or so he thought. All they could do was take good care of the baby dog.

People gossiped about it, saying, "The king's offspring is a dog!" they said. The king paid them no mind. He ignored them.

After that, some time passed. After his wife became pregnant again, it seems the king went away like before. Since he was gone, he was not at the house when his wife gave birth. The child was another boy. As soon as the baby was born, the two older sisters did the same as before. They put it in a wooden box, wrapped up nice and snug, and set it adrift.

Not long after that, when the king came home, they told him their sister had given birth again. They said her baby was a cat. The king was even more upset. "Impossible!" said he. "Twice she has given birth, first to a dog, and now a cat!"

Jadi dia tidak senang melihat isterinya. Isterinya berkata, "Itu tidak bisa kita katakan. Inilah nasib kita."

Raja mendengar perkataan isterinya seperti itu. Karena itu dia sadar. Katanya, "Kalau nasib kita seperti ini, kita tidak bisa mengatakannya." Jadi dipeliharanya anak kucing itu.

Kembali cerita kita kepada anak yang dihanyutkan tadi. Waktu orang tua itu sedang hendak membuang sampah ke sungai, dilihatnya ada peti lagi. Peti itu langsung diambilnya, sesudah itu dia bawa, dia membuka. Dilihatnya ada bayi, wajahnya sama dengan bayi yang didapatnya pertama kali. Mereka itu menamakan bayi yang nomor dua ini Buyung. Kedua orang tua ini tidak ada anak, jadi gembira sekali mereka, sudah ada dua orang anak.

By this time he couldn't bear looking at his wife. His wife said, "We shouldn't talk about it. It is simply our fate."

He listened to his wife's words. He took them to heart. He said, "If that is our fate, we can't talk about it. "They took good care of the kitten.

We return to pick up the story of the baby boy drifting down the river. When the old woman was throwing trash into the river, she saw another box. They fetched it, brought it home, and opened it up. They saw a baby whose face looked exactly like the one they found before. They named the number two child Buyung. The couple, who could not have children, were extremely happy now to have two.

Mereka itu mengajar kedua anak ini. Lama-kelamaan sudah besar pula, sudah bisa pula berjalan, sudah bisa juga berbicara. Belum waktunya bisa bicara, mereka sudah bisa bicara. Belum waktunya bisa berjalan, sudah bisa berjalan.

Kembali kita dengan cerita yang tiga bersaudara tadi. Isteri raja ini selalu bersedih, terus memikirkan. Apa katanya, "Anak saya rupanya seperti kucing." Maka ibu ini sayang sekali dengan kucing. Dipegang dan diciumnya. Menangis dia melihat kucing dan anjing itu.

Setelah itu kejadian terulang lagi. Raja itu pergi lagi, isterinya sedang hamil. Sesudah itu waktu raja pergi, melahirkan lagi isteri raja. Anaknya itu perempuan.

They taught the two boys everything. As time went by they grew, and learned to walk and talk. Before the usual time for children to talk, they were already talking. Before the usual time to walk, they were already walking.

Let's go back to pick up the story of the three sisters. For her part, the king's wife was very upset. She thought and thought about it. What she thought was, "My child has the appearance of a kitten." Nevertheless, the mother loved that kitten. She held it and kissed it. She wept to see the cat and the dog.

After some time had passed, it happened yet again. The king went away, and his wife was pregnant. And so, while the king was away, his wife gave birth again. This child was a girl.

Kakaknya yang berdua ini benci dengan adiknya karena dia jadi isteri raja. Begitu anak yang ketiga lahir, bayi perempuan itu, mereka berbuat seperti dulu. Dibuangnya lagi bayi perempuan itu, dihanyutnya. Sewaktu raja pulang, bayi itu sudah diganti dengan anak kambing.

Karena iri hati dengan adiknya maka kakaknya berbuat seperti itu. Maksudnya menggantikan ini, karena mereka ingin juga dengan raja. Kalau isteri raja itu diceraikannya, mungkin salah satu dari mereka yang jadi istri raja. Kata kakaknya yang berdua itu, "Seharusnya kita dulu yang jadi isteri raja, bahagia kita, bukan adik kita. Nasib kita jadi tukang masak, melainkan adik yang hidup senang," katanya.

Sesudah mereka menggantikan bayi dengan anak kambing, pulanglah raja. Jadi raja itu berkata, "Keterlaluan!"

The two older sisters hated their little sister because she was the king's wife. As soon as the third child—the baby girl—was born, they did the same thing as before. They got rid of the baby girl by setting it adrift. By the time the king came home, they had exchanged her with a kid goat.

The two older sisters acted the way they did out of blind jealousy. The intent of the changeling scheme was so they could be with the king, and pass their sister by. If the king divorced his wife, next time one of them would be the king's wife. They said, "By custom, one of us should have been the king's happy wife, not our little sister. Instead our fate was to be kitchen maids. She lives in luxury," they said.

After they had exchanged the baby with a kid goat, the king returned home. The king spoke up. "This is no longer within the boundary!" he said.

Rakyat banyak di dusun itu terus membicarakan raja. Ada anak lahir anjing, lahir kucing, juga lahir kambing, katanya. Tidak sama dengan anak orang. Karena itulah raja berpikir, “Kenapa istri saya seaneh itu? Apakah isteri saya itu bukan manusia? Apakah dia itu binatang?”

Sesudah itu datang tentara raja. Kata pengawal, “Dia seperti ini, Raja. Isteri raja itu bukannya orang. Kita mengikatnya saja.”

Jadi isteri raja itu diikat, terus dia digantung di pinggir jalan. Kaki dan tangannya diikat. Siapa saja yang lewat menyayati perempuan itu. Tinggal celana dan baju di badannya. Badannya disayat, diletakkan orang macam-macam yang pedas atau cuka. Begitulah setiap hari dia mengamuk.

People were ridiculing him. He had sired a dog, a cat, and a goat, they said. They didn't look like human children. That made the king wonder, "Why is my wife so strange? Maybe my wife is not human? Is she an animal?"

After that the king's soldiers arrived. "It's like this, King," they said. "Your wife is not human. We are going to tie her up."

They bound the king's wife and staked her beside the road. Her feet and hands were bound. Whoever passed by could harass the woman. All she had were the clothes on her back. Whoever came by could torture her. Her flesh was torn, hot things or vinegar were poured on her wounds. Day after day like that she writhed in pain.



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Kembali ke cerita kita dengan bayi perempuan yang dihanyutkan tadi. Akhirnya dia ditemukan orang tua itu lagi. Waktu ditemukan, orang tua itu berkata, "Itu ada peti satu lagi. Rasanya tidak lain lagi, isinya pasti orang," katanya. "Itu adalah tempat bayi, kiranya. Di hulu ada orang yang tidak suka dengan anaknya lagi. Entahlah dia anak haram, entah apanya, ya?" katanya.

Sesudah itu peti diambil. Rupanya isi peti itu bayi perempuan, baru lahir. Anak perempuan itu dia beri nama Upik. Jadi belum waktunya bisa tertawa, dia sudah bisa tertawa. Belum waktunya dia bisa berjalan, dia sudah bisa berjalan, sama dengan yang berdua dulu. Bagus sekali anak kecil bertiga itu, wajahnya sama saja, hanya yang satu perempuan.

We return to the story of the baby girl drifting down the river. In the end, the old couple found her, too. When they found her, the old man said, "That's a box! There's another one! I have a feeling it's another baby," he said. "Somebody upstream can't stand the sight of children. Perhaps the children are illegitimate, or who knows what?" he said.

So they took in the baby girl. Because they had no children, they treated the infant as their own child. They named her Upik. Before the usual age to start laughing, she was already laughing. Before the walking stage, she was already walking, exactly like the other two. The three children were excellent, and they looked alike, except one was a girl.

Kakék adalah orang hébat, banyak ilmu, juga sakti. Diajarnya Ujang dan Buyung. Diajarnya bersilat, anggar, dan menémbak. Belum berdua anak itu diajarkan menémbak yang benar, mereka sudah bisa menémbak. Sesudah itu kakék mengajarkan bersilat. Belum waktunya dapat, meréka sudah bisa bersilat. Sesudah itu juga meréka belajar memanah, sama saja. Kakék meletakkan jambu di atas bambu, meréka membidik jambu itu, kena. Akhirnya sangat pintar dua bersaudara ini. Apa lagi, ketika kakéknya melempar jambu ke atas, dibidiknya, kena lagi. Alangkah pidiknya kedua anak laki-laki ini. Artinya pintar pakai ilmu.

Upik yang ada di rumah, pakai ilmu pula. Dia itu sangat cantik sekali. Menunggang kuda juga bisa.

Their Grandfather was an extraordinary man with great knowledge of magic. That's what he taught to Ujang and Buyung. He taught them kick boxing, for example, and sword fighting, and shooting. Before Grandfather could even teach them the proper way, they could already shoot. After that, grandfather taught them kick boxing. Before they got to the end of the lesson, they already knew how. The last thing was shooting a bow and arrow. To practice with the bow, their grandfather placed a guava fruit on top of a bamboo pole. They aimed and hit it. In the end, they became extraordinary experts, those two boys. They could even aim and hit something thrown into the air. Their aim was completely outside the ordinary. Which means, their skill was in the use of magic.

As for Upik, at the house, she learned magic, too. That one, she was a real beauty. And she could ride a horse.

Ada pekerjaan kakéknya itu setiap hari. Kerjanya berburu. Karena itulah dia mengajarkan Ujang dan Buyung berburu. Caranya berburu adalah menémbak. Pada suatu hari kakék pergi berburu, kedua anak ikut juga. Dilihatnya ada rusa, langsung ia menémbak, kena, mati. Rusa itu dibawa pulang. Kelima orang itu, kakék-nénék dan anak tiga bersaudara, memakan daging rusa. Senang sekali meréka.

Yang dikerjakan nénék di sana itu adalah menanam bermacam-macam bunga di sekeliling rumahnya. Dia juga menanam bermacam-macam sayuran. Diurusnya baik-baik. Kalau orang mampir, bunga itu kelihatan bagus sekali. Ditanamnya juga bermacam-macam buah-buahan.

Grandfather had work to do every day. His main activity was hunting. And so he taught Ujang and Buyung to hunt. He taught them to hunt as he did, with a bow and arrow. So there came a time one day, when their Grandfather went hunting, they went too. They saw a deer. They shot and killed it, and carried it home. There were five people there—two grandparents and three children—feasting on the meat. They were happy.

What Grandmother did all day at home included planting a variety of flowers and arranging them around the house. She also planted various kinds of vegetables, and looked after them diligently. When visitors came, they were struck by the beauty of the flowers. She also planted a variety of fruit trees.

Lama-kelamaan kakék itu sudah tua pula. Sesudah itu kakék meninggal. Tinggallah nénék dengan anak tiga bersaudara itu. Upik bertanya, apakah ada pesan waktu kakék mau meninggal? Nénék tidak menjawab.

Sesudah itu Ujang dengan Buyung terus memburu rusa dan kijang. Kalau meréka berburu rusa, tidak menunggu rusa sedang tidur, sedang berdiripun ditémbak.

Buyung berkata, dia ingin melihat kehebatan dua bersaudara ini. Adiknya berkata, “Kakak, mana yang mau kamu témbak? Ingin menémbak rusa, atau ingin kijang?” katanya.

Kata Ujang, “Saya besar, saya ingin menémbak rusa.”

Kata Buyung, "Kalau kamu ingin menémbak rusa, diamlah di sini. Saya mengejar rusa dulu, dari hutan di sana itu." Sesudah itu, rusa léwat berlari sekencangkencangnya. Ujang langsung menémbak, kena, matilah rusa itu.

After a while, their Grandfather grew old, and a little later he passed away. When Grandfather died, their Grandmother was left behind with the three children. Upik asked, "Did Grandfather leave a message for us before he died?" Grandmother did not answer.

Time passed and the two brothers continued to hunt the deer and the elk. When they hunted deer, they didn't creep up on sleeping animals, they shot them standing up.

Buyung said he wanted to test the skills of the two brothers. The younger one said, "Older Brother," he said, "what do you want to shoot? Do you want to shoot a deer or an elk?"

Ujang said: "I am big, I want to shoot a deer, like that."

Buyung said, "Stay here. I will flush a deer from over there, from that thicket over there." A deer ran out lickety-split. Ujang shot and killed that deer.

Sesudah itu dia ingin melihat kehebatan adiknya. Kata Ujang, "Kamu kecil, kamu menembak kijang saja. Saya mengejar kijangnya." Sudah dia mengejar kijang, lewatlah kijang itu berlari sangat cepatnya. Buyung langsung menembak, kena pula. Saking banyaknya, dagingnya tidak termakan lagi.

Jadi, pekerjaan Upik di rumah adalah bekerja dengan nénéknya. Apa pekerjaan nénéknya? Kerjanya menjahit baju memakai benang, dan membuat tangguk. Dia mengajarkan juga cara orang menangkap ikan.

Sesudah itu waktu Ujang dan Buyung pulang ke rumah, ada pesan kakéknya sebelum ia meninggal. Kakék telah meninggalkan pesan dengan nénék.

Pesan kakéknya kepada Ujang dan Buyung, "Kamu awasi adik kamu ini baik-baik. Itulah pesan kakék kamu. Jangan sampai adik kamu ini celaka atau luka. Adik kamu ini masih kecil. Walaupun dia kecil, dia pandai."

Next he wanted to see his younger brother's skill. He said, "You are small, you shoot an elk. I will flush one out. "After flushing an elk, it crossed in front of them running extremely fast. Buyung shot and killed it, too. There was such a variety of meat, they couldn't eat it all.

Back at the house, the responsibility of Upik was to work with Grandmother. What were Grandmother's tasks? For example, she made all their clothes from thread, she made fishnets. She taught Upik the way people catch fish.

One day after Ujang and Buyung had returned to the house, there was a message left by Grandfather before he died. He had left it with Grandmother.

Grandmother said to Ujang and Buyung, "Guard well your little sister. This is a message from your Grandfather. Do not let your sister have an accident, or get hurt, because she is still small. Although she is small, she is truly extraordinary."

Kakék juga berpesan, “Kalau Ujang dan Buyung ingin berburu, jangan suka pergi ke hutan yang luar dari hutan kita ini. Sebab kalau meréka pergi ke hutan lain, nanti mendapat celaka atau bahaya. Sesudah itu, waktu Buyung dan Ujang pergi berburu ke hutan lain, nénéknya tidak diberitahu.

~6~

Sewaktu meréka pergi berburu di hutan lain, bertemulah dengan orang yang sedang mencari rotan. Orang itu terkejut. Katanya kepada meréka berdua , “Apa yang kalian cari ke dalam hutan ini?”

“Kami ini pergi mencari rusa dengan kijang.”

“Oy,” katanya, ”Kijang dan rusa di sini banyak sekali. Sebab di sekitar sini sering juga orang berburu. Puas orang menémbaknya, tidak pernah kena.”

What Grandfather’s message also said was, when Ujang and Buyung go hunting, they should not stray into other areas beyond where they usually go. Because if they wander too far, they might meet with an accident or some calamity.”

So from that day on, Ujang and Buyung didn't tell Grandmother whenever they went hunting in unfamiliar territory.

~6~

One day while hunting in an unfamiliar forest, they met a man looking for rattan. The man was startled, and he asked the two boys straightaway:

"What are you doing in this forest?"

"We came looking for deer and elk," they said.

"Oh!," he said. "There are plenty around here. People often hunt in this area. They shoot and shoot at the deer but never hit anything!"

Kata Buyung, "Alangkah pintarnya rusa di sini!"

"Memang pintar sekali," kata orang yang mencari rotan. Tidak lama sesudah dia mengatakan, lewatlah rusa. Orang itu menunjuk. Katanya, "Itu rusa léwat! Témbaklah!" Rupanya rusa itu mendengar, dia berhenti.

Kata Ujang, "Kalau menyuruh saya menémbak rusa itu, pergilah mengejarnya dulu. Suruh dia lari! Jadi pergilah tukang cari rotan itu mengejar. Sesudah itu rusa léwat sedang lari sangat cepatnya, langsung dia témbak, kena, matilah rusa itu.

Ujang memberikan rusa yang didapatnya kepada pencari rotan itu. Jadi pencari rotan tidak lagi mencari rotan. Alangkah gembiranya dia mendapat rusa itu. Dia pulang dan membawa rusa itu ke desanya, kebetulan itu tempat Ujang dan Buyung lahir dahulu. Dia membawa rusa tadi dan mengajak orang desa jamuan, cara kita orang Rejang. Dijamunya orang banyak. Dijamunya pula raja.

Buyung said, "The deer here must be very wary."

"They really are," said the rattan gatherer. While they were talking like that a deer crossed in front of them. The rattan gatherer pointed at it. "There's a deer! Shoot it!" he said. The deer heard him. When the rattan gatherer spoke, the deer stopped.

Ujang said, "If you're telling me to shoot the deer, go chase it! Make it run!" The rattan gatherer went and chased the deer. It was running. It ran very fast. They shot, hit, and killed the deer.

Ujang gave it to the rattan gatherer. The rattan gatherer didn't look for any more rattan. He was so happy to get the deer, he took it straight home to his village, where Ujang and Buyung were born. He prepared the deer, and called the people together, the way we Rejangs do. Many people came. The king was also invited.

Begitu raja melihat rusa itu, dia terkejut. "Apa ini?" katanya? "Dari mana kamu mendapat rusa ini? Kami saja memburu rusa tidak dapat," kata raja.

Kata pencari rotan itu, "Bukannya rusa itu saya dapat hidup-hidup."

"Jadi diambil begitu saja?" kata raja. "Artinya, kamu memberikan orang makan bangkai rusa?" Raja mulai marah kepada pencari rotan itu.

"Bukan saya yang membunuhnya," jawab pencari rotan itu tadi. "Ada dua orang memburu rusa. Mereka masih anak-anak, sangat tampan sekali. Wajahnya mirip dengan wajah raja," katanya.

Sesudah itu kata raja, "Kalau begini, kapan anak-anak itu sering berburu?"

"Rasa saya, sekarang setiap hari mereka berburu ke sana. Mereka sering dapat," jawab tukang pencari rotan itu.

When the king saw the deer, he was surprised. "What?" he said. "Where did you get this deer? We just hunt the deer, but never get one."

"This deer, I didn't actually take it alive," said the rattan gatherer. "You found it?" said the king. "You're giving people a deer carcass to eat?" Thus the king was ready to reprimand the rattan gatherer.

He answered, "It wasn't like that. There were two people hunting deer. Just kids, really, extremely beautiful children. Their faces looked a lot like yours," he said straightaway.

Hearing that, the king said, "I understand. So when are those children likely to be out hunting?"

"I think recently they've been hunting there every day, and they're often successful," answered the rattan gatherer.

Sesudah itu bersiaplah raja dengan tentaranya hendak pergi berburu. Mereka seperti orang yang siap perang atau memburu rusa, sama saja. Tukang pencari rotan tadi ikut juga, tukang penunjuk tempatnya. Rombongan ini pergi ke dalam hutan. Sesudah itu mereka bertemu dengan kedua anak kecil tersebut. Mereka sebetulnya anak raja. Tapi raja tidak tahu.

“Apa kerja kalian di sini?” kata raja.

“Kami mencari rusa” kata Ujang.

“Kami ingin mencari rusa juga di sini, ingin ikut dengan kalian,” kata raja.

“Kalau ingin memburu rusa,” kata tukang pencari rotan itu, “di sekitar sini banyak.”

Kata Ujang, “Marilah kita menembaknya kalau begitu.”

Tidak lama setelah itu, terlihatlah raja rusa. Raja melihat rusa itu, dia berkata, “Itu ada rusa! Silakan menembaknya!”

Soon after that the king and his soldiers made preparations to go hunting. The hunting party set out. These guys were like people going fight a war, or were they really going looking for deer? The rattan gatherer went along to show them the way. Off they went into the forest. Before long they met the two children, the king's sons. But they didn't know that.

The king said, "What are you doing?"

"We're looking for deer," said Ujang.

"We're looking for deer here, too. We'd like to join you," said the king.

"If you're looking for deer," said the rattan gatherer, "there are plenty around here.

"Ujang said, "Let's go shoot one if that's the case."

Not long after that, the king spotted a deer. The king looked at the deer. He said: "That's a deer! Shoot it!"

Tapi Buyung berkata, “Kalau menyuruh kami menémbak rusa, jangan rusa yang sedang tidur. Silakan ditémbak oleh raja.” Raja menémbak rusa itu, tapi tidak kena.

Setelah itu kata Buyung tadi, "Ay, bapak tidak usah mengikuti kami berburu kalau begitu. Lihatlah cara kami kalau ingin menémbak rusa," katanya. Tidak lama sesudah itu, ada lagi rusa yang léwat. Kata raja, “Itu ada rusa! Témbaklah!”

“Jika bapak ingin menyuruh saya menémbak,” kata Buyung, “pergi kejarkan dulu, suruhlah dia berlari.”

Pergilah raja mengejar. Sesudah itu ada rusa berlari cepat sekali. Langsunglah Buyung menémbaknya, kena, matilah rusa itu. Raja sampai heran. Sesudah itu lewatlah kancil dengan sangat cepatnya. Langsung Ujang menémbaknya dari belakang, matilah kancil itu. Raja sampai malu.

Buyung said, "You may tell us to shoot, but not one that is asleep. If you want to shoot one that's lying down, let the king do it." The king shot at the deer, but didn't hit it.

After that Buyung said, "Ay, don't go hunting with us if that's how its going to be. Observe our methods if you want to shoot a deer" he said. As soon as he spoke, another deer came by. The king said, "It's a deer! Shoot it!"

“If you're telling me to shoot," said Buyung, "go flush one out and make it run."

The king went to flush one out. A deer came out running lickety-split. Buyung shot and hit it. The deer fell dead. The king was astonished. Next a mouse deer came out running extremely fast. Ujang shot it dead from behind. It put the king to shame.

Karena raja malu, anak buahnya sampai marah juga. Mereka bertanya, “Kalian orang mana?”

“Kami tinggal di dalam hutan. Inilah kerja kami,” kata Ujang.

Kata tentara raja tadi, "Kalian ini sombong sekali tinggal di dalam hutan. Kami saja tinggal di desa, tidak seperti kalian. ”

“Bukannya kami sombong, itulah cara kami,” kata Ujang.

Tentara raja itu berkata pula, "Kalau kalian mau bertanding betul, marilah bertanding sekarang!

“Bertanding apa?” kata Ujang. “Kalau kalian mau mengajak kami bertanding, ayolah kita menembak buah jeruk diletak di ujung bambu,” kata Ujang begitu saja.

“Ayo!” kata raja. Raja tidak tahu, yang bertanding itu adalah anak kandungnya.

Because of the king's embarrassment, the king's followers became angry, too. They asked, "What kind of people are you, anyway?"

“We live in the forest. This is what we do for a living," said Ujang.

A soldier of the king said, "You are showing off because you live in the forest. We live in a village, not like you," he said.

"We were not showing off, that is how we always do it," said Ujang.

The soldier said, "If you want to compete with us, let's have a contest right now!"

“What kind of contest do you want?" asked Ujang. If it's a contest you want, let's shoot at a citrus fruit placed on the end of a bamboo," said Ujang straightaway.

"Let's," said the king. The king did not know that they were his children competing against him.

Sesudah itu Ujang mempersilakan pihak raja menembak dulu. Raja menembak, tetapi tidak kena. Setelah raja menembak, anak buahnya pun disuruh menembak pula. "Silakan tembak oleh pihak kalian," kata Ujang. Setelah kira-kira sudah ada tiga puluh buah anak panah yang ditembak, tidak ada satupun yang kena.

Sesudah itu kata raja, "Sampai giliran kalian. Tembaklah oleh kalian!" katanya. Ujang itu menembaknya, kena, pecah jeruk itu.

Kata Ujang, "Kalian sombong, mau mengajak kami bertaruh. Bertanding menembak jeruk ini saja, kalian tidak kena. Jika kalian mau melihat kepandaian kami, seperti ini.". Diambilnya buah jeruk, dilemparnya ke atas. Buyung menembak, pecah juga jeruk itu. Mereka berdua tadi telah diajar kakéknnya sejak kecil. Ditertawakannya saja orang yang mengajak bertanding itu.

For starters, Ujang said for the king's side to shoot first. The king shot and missed. Next he told the king's followers to shoot. "Please, your side, fire away," said Ujang. At least thirty arrows were shot but not one of them hit the target.

After that the king said, "Now it's your turn. Your side can shoot," he said. Ujang shot and hit the target. The citrus fruit shattered.

Ujang said, "You were too proud. You invited us to make a bet on who could hit the citrus, but you missed. If you want to see our skills, watch this!" said Ujang. Ujang took a citrus and threw it. Buyung shot, and the citrus broke into pieces. Those two boys had been trained by their Grandfather since they were little. They laughed at anyone who challenged them to compete.

Raja menjadi panas hatinya. Dia pulang ke dusunnya. Tapi sebelum dia pulang, ditanyanya kedua orang itu, "Di mana kalian tinggal?"

"Kami tinggal di dalam hutan. "

Kata raja, "Suatu hari nanti kami pergi berjalan ke dalam hutan, tempat kalian."

"Boleh saja," kata Ujang dan Buyung. Sesudah itu semua pergi. Ujang dengan Buyung ini pulang ke tempat tinggal nénéknya. Raja pulang ke desa.

The king became really angry. He went back to town. But before he went, he asked the two boys, "Where do you live?"

"We live in the forest," they said.

The king said, "Next time we're in the forest, we'll come visit your place."

"Please do!" said Ujang and Buyung. After that everybody left. Ujang and Buyung went home to their Grandmother's place. The king went back to town.



**Kata Upik, “Saya héndak pergi mencari kakak saya.”**

Waktu Ujang dengan Buyung pulang ke tempat nénék, rupanya nénéknya sedang sakit. Nénék berkata kepada tiga beradik itu, "Sekarang saya ini tidak lama lagi hidup. Sebenarnya kalian bukan anak saya," katanya. "Kalian bertiga ini saya dapat sewaktu hanyut. Saya mengatakan yang sebenarnya. Kalian ini masih ada ibu dan bapak.

Ketiga bersaudara itu heran. Meréka beribu kepada nénék. Kata nénék, "Kalian tidak usah lagi beribu kepada saya," katanya. "Kalian bernénék saja."

Meréka menangis mendengar ceritanya. Meréka bukan anak perempuan tua itu. Meréka tinggal dengan nénék.

Nénék ada pesan. Kata nénék, "Kamu berdua laki-laki ini harus menjaga adik perempuan ini baik-baik, jangan sampai ada celaka. Apa saja kehéndak adik kamu, jangan tidak diambil, jangan tidak diberi," katanya.

When the boys arrived back at Grandmother's place, Grandmother had become sick, and she spoke to them. "I will not live much longer now," she said. "You are not my children, not really," she said. "I found you floating downstream, all three of you. I am telling you the truth," she said. You still have a mother and a father."

The three children were shocked. They had been saying 'Mother' to their Grandmother. Their Grandmother said, "Don't call me 'Mother'. Just address me as Grandmother," she said.

The children cried when they heard the story. Their mother was not their mother. They had been living with their grandmother. She had instructions for them.

Grandmother said, "You two boys have to watch carefully over your baby sister. Don't let any mishaps befall her," she said. "Whatever your sister wants, don't fail to get it, don't fail to give it to her," she said.

“Ya,” jawab Ujang seperti itu.

“Baiklah, Nénék,” kata Buyung. Ketiga anak itu sedih sekali mendengar pesan nénék meréka.

Nénék meninggal. Dia dikuburkan berdampingan dengan kakék. Sesudah nénék dikuburkan, tiga beradik itu menangis teus-terusan.

~8~

Berapa lama sesudah itu, Ujang dan Buyung pergi berburu. Pada waktu meréka pulang, Upik mengatakannya, “Saya ada perlu dengan Kakak.”

“Apa?” kata Ujang dan Buyung

“Saya ada pesan dari kakék,” kata Upik. “Kakék menyuruh kita mengambil air mancur dari air raksa, mengambil bunga yang bisa bernyanyi, dan mencari burung yang dapat berbicara. Tempatnya di Bukit Sam yang jauh di sana itu.”

"Yes," said Ujang straightaway.

"It will be done," said Buyung. The three children were overcome with sadness listening to their grandmother's instructions. Their grandmother died. They buried her in the grave beside their grandfather. After the burial, the three children wept and wept.

~8~

Some time after that, Ujang and Buyung went hunting. When they returned, Upik spoke to them. "I have a request for you," she said.

"What is it?" they said.

"I have a message from grandfather," said Upik. Grandfather told us to get water spouting from quicksilver, flowers that can sing, and a bird that can talk. Their location is over yonder on Sam Mountain."

Ujang dengan Buyung berkata, "Baiklah, kalau memang kakék mengatakan seperti itu."

Meréka tahu, apa kehéndak adiknya itu, pesan kakék jangan tidak diambil. Langsung mereka mengambil kudanya. Ditaruhnya di depan pondok, lalu meréka berpesan kepada Upik. "Kamu tinggallah di pondok ini baik-baik. Jangan pergi. Makananmu cukup. Selama kami pergi, Adik harus melihat tanda-tanda kami.

"Jika kami berhasil mendapatkan seperti yang dikehéndaki kakék atau Adik, beruntunglah. Jika tidak, kita tidak bisa mengatakannya."

Sebelum meréka pergi, meréka membuat tanda. Tanda yang Ujang, piring diletakan di atas plafon. Diletakannya baik-baik. Kata Ujang, "Kalau piring ini pecah, itu tandanya saya mati." Setelah itu Buyung menggantung pisau di atas loteng. Katanya, "Jika pisau saya ini nanti menetes darah ke piring kakak, itu tandanya saya juga mati. "

Ujang and Buyung said, "Yes, if that is what he said."

They knew that, whatever their sister wanted, their grandparents had told them don't fail to get it. With that in mind, they fetched their horses. They tied them in front of their house, then spoke to Upik. "You stay right here," said Ujang. "Don't go anywhere. You have plenty of food. We may be gone for a long time," he said. "You must watch for our signs.

If we can fulfill Grandfather's request, or Upik's request, we'll be lucky," he said. "If not, we shouldn't talk about it."

Before they left they prepared signs. What Ujang did was put a plate on the mantel above the fireplace. He positioned it carefully. "If this plate breaks, it is a sign that I am dead," he said. Next Buyung hung a knife from the attic beam. He said, "If my knife should drip blood on older brother's plate," he said, "it is a sign that I am dead, too."

Setelah itu berangkatlah kedua saudara itu. Mereka tidak pergi ke satu arah, karena jalan itu bercabang dua. Ujang pergi ke arah kiri, Buyung pergi ke arah kanan.

Sewaktu Ujang pergi ke arah kiri, sesampainya dia di suatu persimpangan jalan. Di sana dia bertemu dengan orang tua. Orang tua itu berkata, "Jika kamu hendak pergi ke sana, apa yang kamu lihat di jalan, jangan dibunuh, jangan kamu perduli, terus saja berjalan," naséhat orang tua itu tadi.

"Ya, Kakék, kalau seperti itu," kata Ujang. Tidak lama kemudian, di jalan dilihatnya harimau, dilihatnya siamang, dilihatnya rusa lewat, dilihatnya kalong sebesar rumah menjerit di dekat telinganya, sampai dia pusing. Karena dia mendengar perkataan orang tua di persimpangan jalan dulu—"Apa yang dilihat jangan ditémbak ... kalau ditémbak kamu dalam bahaya"—terus saja dia berjalan.

After that, the two brothers departed. They did not go the same way. The road branched into two. Ujang went one way, and Buyung went the other.

While Ujang was continuing on his way, he came to a crossroad. He met an old man. The old man said, "If you want to go to over yonder, whatever you see along this road, don't disturb it. Don't kill it. Don't pay any attention to it. Keep going, pass it right by," advised the old man.

"All right if you say so," said Ujang. Not long after that, on the road he saw tigers, he saw apes, he saw deer running by, he saw bats as big as houses screaming in his ears. He became confused—confused because he wanted to get to the mountain, yet he remembered what the old man at the crossroad had said—"Don't shoot anything . . . if you shoot you will meet danger"—so, on and on he went.

Alangkah banyaknya yang mengganggu dia di jalan. Dia hendak menembak binatang itu. Begitu dia ingin menembak harimau, ia berubah menjadi patung, mati. Ujang menjadi batu.

Tinggal Buyung, dia terus mencari, tetapi dia tersesat di jalan, kemudian dia memutar balik arah. Lama-lama dia bertemu lagi dengan jalan bercabang dua itu. Terus dia mengikuti jalan yang kiri. Tidak lama sesudah itu, dia bertemu dengan orang tua itu dulu. Orang tua itu menegurnya, "Mengapa kamu di sini?"

"Saya tidak tahu jalannya, sekarang saya mau mengikuti jalan kakak saya dulu," katanya.

Orang tua itu memberi naséhat, "Apapun yang kamu lihat di hutan, jangan diganggu."

"Ya Kakék" katanya. Setelah itu dia terus berkuda. Di jalan banyak yang ditemuinya. Akhirnya, dilihatnya burung. Burung itu berkicau. Suaranya nyaring. Buyung ingin menembaknya. Buyung jadi batu, juga kudanya.

But there were so many things disturbing him on the road. He wanted to shoot the animals. Just as he was about to shoot a tiger, he turned to stone. He was dead. Ujang was turned to stone.

That left Buyung. He searched and searched but lost his way. Finally, he found the branching road where Ujang had asked directions, and found the old man. The old man asked, "Why are you here?"

"I don't know the way," he said. "Now I just want to follow my older brother's trail," he said.

What the old man said to him was, "Whatever you see in the forest, don't disturb it."

"I won't," said Buyung, and continued riding.

He encountered many disturbances while riding his horse. The last was a bird. The bird screeched. The sound became more and more deafening. Buyung decided to shoot it. Buyung immediately turned to stone, and so did his horse.

Kembali kita kepada Upik yang tinggal sendirian di rumah tadi. Dia melihat tanda milik Ujang, piringnya pecah. "Sudah mati kakakku," kata Upik. Dia melihat tanda Buyung, pisau berdarah dan menetes ke piring pecah itu. "Ay!" katanya, "Kalau begini kakak saya mati semua." Upik menyiapkan alat-alatnya dan kué dibawanya juga. Dia mengambil kuda. Sebelum dia berangkat, Upik mengunjungi kuburan kakék dan nénéknya. Kata Upik, "Kék, Nék, saya akan pergi mencari kakak-kakak saya. Meréka sudah mati. Saya harus mencari mayat meréka. Jika meréka masih hidup, kita beruntung," katanya. "Jika meréka sudah mati kita tidak bisa mengatakannya."

Upik mendengar suara dari kuburan kakék dan nénéknya. "Pergilah. Kami suruh kamu pergi."

Langsung Upik pergi. Dia bertemu orang tua di simpang jalan tempat Ujang dan Buyung bertanya sebelumnya. Kata orang tua itu, "Mau ke mana kamu sebenarnya, Gadis?"

Let's go back to Upik who remained alone in the house. She looked at Ujang's sign. The plate was broken. "My older brother is dead," she said. She looked at Buyung's sign. The knife was dripping blood onto the broken plate. "Ai!" she said. "It means both my brothers are dead." Upik got her things together, and brought some food. She fetched her horse. Before she left, she went to visit her grandparents' grave. Upik spoke like this: "Grandmother and Grandfather, I am going to look for my brothers. They are both dead. I am going to look for their bodies. If they are alive, as we pray for it to be so, that will be our good fortune. If they are dead, we can no longer say anything."

After that, Upik heard a voice from the soul of her grandmother: "Go! We command you to go!"

Quickly Upik went into action, following the same trail behind her brothers. She met the old man at the crossroad where Ujang and Buyung had made enquiries. The old man asked: "Where in the world are you going, Young Lady?"

Kata Upik, "Saya hendak pergi mencari kakak saya."

"Ikuti jalan ini, jalan tempat kakak-kakak kamu lewat dulu. Tetapi ada syaratnya sedikit," katanya. "Apa saja binatang yang mengganggu, jangan kamu bunuh," katanya.

"Jadi," kata Upik seperti ini.

Sebelum Upik pergi, diletakkannya kapas di telinga, sehingga dia tidak banyak mendengar. Dia terus berkuda. Di jalan banyak gangguan-gangguan, tapi dia tidak mendengar. Tidak lama kemudian dilihatnya kakak-kakaknya telah menjadi batu. Upik menangis melihat kedua kakaknya itu.

Waktu dia menangis tibalah seékor burung. Burung ini bisa berbicara.

"Kamu hendak pergi ke mana Gadis?" tanya burung.

Upik tercengang. Jawabnya, "Aku datang ke mari hendak mencari kedua kakakku ini."

"I am looking for my brothers," said Upik.

"Follow this road, which is the road taken by your brothers a short while ago. But there is a slight condition," said the old man. "Whatever animals there are that bother you, you are not to kill them."

"I promise," she said straightaway.

Before setting out, Upik put cotton in her ears so she could hardly hear a thing. Off she went on her horse. On the way there were many encounters, except she didn't hear them. Soon she saw her two brothers turned to stone. She cried to see her two brothers like that.

While she was crying, a bird flew up to her. The bird could speak.

"Where are you going, Miss?" asked the bird.

Upik was surprised. "I came here to find my brothers," she said.

Burung ini berkata, "Saya sudah tahu semua ceritanya. Kakak-kakakmu ini orang gagah perkasa. Mereka tidak pernah menghina leluhurnya. Sifatnya baik," katanya. "Ambil syarat ini. Ambil daun sergayu dengan air. Air ini dicampur dengan air beras sedikit, perciklah ke batu itu. Itu syaratnya," kata burung itu.

Upik mengambil air yang dikatakan burung. Diperciknya kaki dan tangan kakaknya yang jadi batu tadi. Ujang dengan Buyung hidup kembali. Kudanya yang jadi batu itu hidup kembali pula.

Sebelum dia hendak pergi, burung itu datang lagi. Kata burung itu kepada Upik, "Ada pesannya?"

Kata gadis ini, "Ada betul. Kami mencari burung yang dapat berbicara, bunga yang bisa bernyanyi, dan air mancur dari air raksa."

Kata burung itu, "Ambil saja di Gunung Sam. Tidak jauh dari sini."

The bird said, "I already know the whole story. Your brothers were admirable. They would never belittle their ancestors. They bore themselves as persons of character," it said. "Now there is still a way. Follow my instructions. Fetch a bamboo and fill it with water. Mix it with a little water from uncooked rice and sprinkle it on the stone. Those are the conditions," said the bird.

Upik got the water as the bird said. She sprinkled it on the feet and hands of her brothers who had turned to stone. Ujang and Buyung sprang back to life. Their horses came back to life, too.

Before they took their leave of that place, the bird came up. It asked Upik, "Are you on a quest?"

Upik answered, "We are, indeed. We seek a bird that can talk, flowers that can sing, and water spouting from quicksilver."

The bird said, "Go fetch them on Sam Mountain. It is not far from here."

Orang tiga bersaudara sudah berteman dengan burung yang bisa berbicara. Mereka pergi mengambil yang lainnya.

Waktu mereka membawa pulang wasiat kakéknnya dulu, bunga yang dipegangnya bernyanyi. Burung yang sudah jadi temannya terus berbicara. Dan air mancur dari air raksa itu menyirami badan mereka.

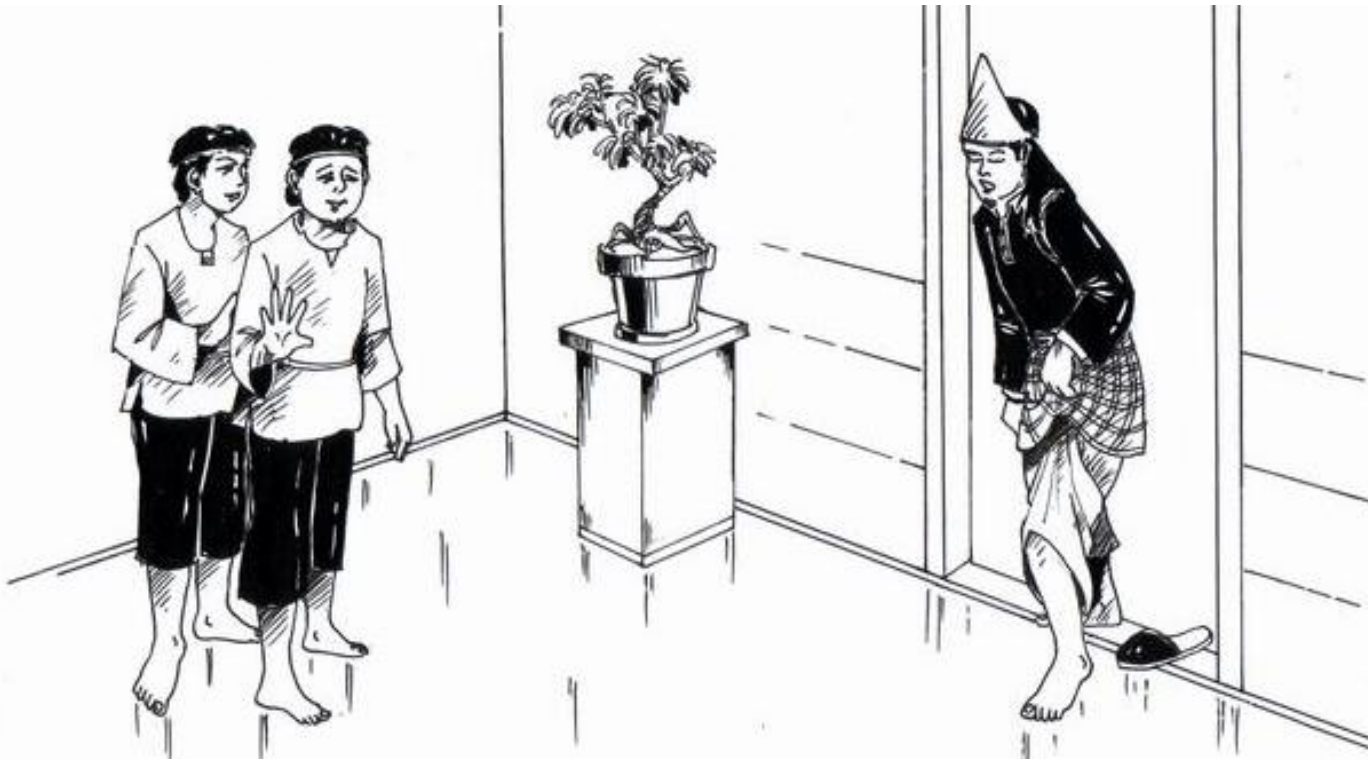
Mereka ini pulang ke pondoknya. Air mancur dari air raksa tadi disiramnya di pinggir kuburan kakék nénéknnya. Bunga yang dapat bernyanyi itu ditanamnya di halaman yang kena angin. Burung yang bisa bicara tadi dibiarkan bebas. Apa yang dikatakan orang dia mengikutinya.

Mereka merasa berbahagia melihat keadaan seperti ini. Dulu waktu mereka masih kecil, nénék banyak menanam buah-buahan, beberapa macam jambu, beberapa macam manggis, di keliling rumahnya. Semua pohon-pohon itu sudah berbuah. Manggisnya sekarang sudah masak.

The children quickly made friends with the talking bird. Off they all went to get the other treasures. While they were carrying them home, the flowers they held sang. As for the talking bird, it was already their friend. It accompanied them home. Along the way, the water gushing from quicksilver, splashed all about.

So they returned to their home. The water spouting from quicksilver they sprinkled over their grandparents' graves. The singing flowers they planted in an open, breezy space. As for the talking bird, they let it roam free. Whatever a person said, that bird understood everything.

The children were happy to see the place like that. When they were still small, they helped plant many varieties of fruit trees, such as guavas and mangosteens, all around their house. All the trees were bearing fruit. The mangosteens were ripe.



**“Mengapa menyingsing celana, Raja? Itu bukanlah air, inilah tempat kami.”**

Ujang dan Buyung pergi berjalan. Dalam perjalanan mereka sampai di dusun tempat raja tinggal. Dia ingin mengajak raja berburu. Rupanya raja ingin pula menemaninya berburu. Dia senang sekali diajak. Sebelum berangkat, mereka melihat ada perempuan yang terikat. Kata Buyung, "Kenapa perempuan itu yang terus disayati orang banyak?" (Dia tidak tahu, adalah ibu kandung orang dua saudara ini.). Perempuan itu heran melihat orang berdua ini. Dia tidak lagi merasa sakit perih begitu melihat orang dua itu, seakan melihat anak kandungnya sendiri. Memang itu anaknya betul, tapi dia tidak tahu. Raja itu tidak peduli dengan perempuan yang terikat itu. Bangsanya dia menurut kata-kata anak buahnya. Jadi rombongan mereka terus pergi. Wanita yang terikat tadi terus menangis melihat kedua orang muda itu.

Ujang and Buyung went for a walk. to the town where the king lived. When they arrived, they planned to invite the king to go hunting. The king loved to go hunting. The king was happy to be invited. Before they left town they saw a woman bound hand and foot. Buyung asked, "Why are you people torturing that woman?" (Nobody realized she was the two boys' mother.) The woman was startled to see the two boys. She no longer suffered when somebody cut her body and poured vinegar on the wounds. She no longer felt the hot stings. She looked at the two boys as if they were her own children. They really were her children, except she didn't know it. The king, though, paid no attention to her. He was the type who listened to his followers too much. So, off they all went. The woman who was tied up cried and cried, just from seeing the two youngsters.

Tetapi pula, raja seperti tidak bersemangat lagi berburu. Kata Ujang, "Kalau begitu, mari kita jalan-jalan saja ke tempat kami."

Setiba di pondok, didengar oleh raja ramai suara orang bernyanyi. Ada bunga menyanyi di tempat yang kena angin. Dilihatnya air memancar ke atas. Mémang itu air mancur dari air raksa. Ada burung berbicara berkicau.

Di sana juga terlihat olehnya lantai rumah itu licin seperti air, karena kesaktian ilmu kakéknya dahulu.

Setelah dia melihat seperti ini, raja berkata, "Alangkah bagusnya tempat kalian ini! Banyak bunga-bunga, pemandangannya indah, buah-buahan banyak!" Raja ini terkesima. Burung itu mengajak raja masuk ke dalam rumah. Sebelum raja masuk, dia menyingsingkan celananya.

"Mengapa menyingsing celana, Raja?" kata Upik. "Itu bukanlah air, inilah tempat kami."

The king suddenly lost interest in hunting. "In that case," said Ujang, "let's go for a walk over to our place."

When they arrived at their forest home, the king heard many voices singing. It was the singing flowers singing in their breezy spot. He saw water gushing up into the air. Of course, it was the quicksilver fountain. A bird flew up and spoke to him. He also saw that the floor of the house was shiny, like water—all due to the magic of the children's Grandparents.

When he saw this, the king said: "How wonderful your place is! Flowers all around, an excellent view, plenty of fruit trees," he said. The king was amazed. The bird invited the king to come into the house. Upon entering the house, he rolled up his pant legs.

"Why are you rolling up your pants, King?" asked Upik. "That is not water! This is our home."

Raja itu tercengang melihat seperti itu. Raja itu duduk sambil berpikir, "Tempat ini sebaiknya direbut untuk kerajaan kita. Jika kita mempunyai tempat seperti ini, bukan main indahnyanya. Terkenal sekali tempat kita nanti."

Anak buah raja tidak ingin masuk rumah. Mereka terus memakan buah. Tidak lama kemudian, raja ini ingin pulang. Dia berkata dengan orang tiga saudara ini, "Saya permisi, saya ingin pulang." Jadi semuanya pulang, raja dengan tentaranya.

Tidak lama sesudah itu raja datang lagi ingin memerangi mereka. Dia hendak menguasai tempat orang tiga bersaudara itu. Sesampai di sana, anak buahnya tidak bersemangat untuk berperang lagi waktu melihat alangkah banyaknya buah-buahan itu. Tentaranya terus memakan buah-buahan. Namun burung tahu maksud raja itu. "Raja ingin memerangi kita," katanya. "Bersiaplah kalian!"

The king was amazed to see everything like that. The king took a seat. While sitting there he began to think, "This should be confiscated as our territory. If we owned this place, it could be unimaginably great. Our province would be famous."

His followers did not go to the house. They were still eating the fruit. Not long after that, the king decided to return home. He said to the three children, "I have to go back." So the king and his band of followers all went home.

Not long after that, the king came back again. He came with hostile intent. He intended to confiscate the children's land. However, his followers had no interest in fighting when they saw all the fruit. His soldiers went straight to eating the fruit.

The bird knew exactly what was in the king's heart. "He plans to attack us!" said the bird. "Get ready!"

Raja tadi ingin memasuki rumah menembak tiga bersaudara ini. Tetapi dia melihat anak buahnya terus makan buah manggis itu. Raja suka juga, sehingga tidak teringat lagi maksudnya berperang. Dia memanjat pohon dan memakannya.

Sudah kenyang, raja turun cepat-cepat. Anak buahnya sudah ingin berperang lagi. Sesudah itu burung berkata, "Aku tahu maksud kalian datang ke sini. Kalian tidak mau baik-baik. Kalian mau buruk, ingin memerangi ketiga orang bersaudara ini. Silahkan saja! Tembaklah kami!" kata burung.

Melihat seperti itu, hati raja panas. Tiba-tiba mereka menembak. Ketiga anak itu sedang berdérét di sana. Burung tadi bertengger di atas atap. Raja terus menembak, tetapi mereka tidak ada satupun yang kena. Tiga bersaudara ini banyak ilmunya.

The king's plan was to enter the house and shoot the children. He saw that his soldiers were still eating the fruit. This made his mouth water, too, so he postponed the attack. He climbed a tree and ate some fruit himself.

When he was satisfied, the king climbed down in a hurry. His followers were now eager to fight. Then the bird said, "I know your reason for coming here. You do not mean us well. You intend to do us harm. You plan to attack these three children. All right, attack! Go ahead and shoot us!" said the bird.

When he saw what was happening, the king became angry. Suddenly he opened fire. The three children were lined up in a row. The bird was perched on the roof. The king shot and shot. He couldn't hit them. They possessed magical powers.

Ditertawakannya raja. "Kalau raja ingin menguasai tempat kami ini, tidak akan mampu!" kata tiga bersaudara ini. Sampai malu raja menyerah. Raja pulang, tidak ada tempat membunyikan mukanya.

~10~

Waktu raja pulang, burung mengatakan kepada tiga bersaudara ini. "Dahulu ada pesan Kakék ketika kalian masih kecil," kata burung. "Kalau kalian ingin mengetahui ibu dan bapak yang sebenarnya, hal ini berbahaya. Kalian harus pergi ke dusun lain, akan tetapi, di sana ada orang jahat yang ingin membunuh kalian. Itulah pesan Kakék dahulu," kata burung ini. "Jika kalian ingin pergi ke sana, kalian harus menampakkan kehébatan kalian dulu," kata burung. "Jadi Kakék memberi kalian ini ujian yang paling berat. Kakék menyuruh kalian untuk mencari bunga yang bisa bernyanyi, mencari air mancur dari air raksa.

They just laughed. "If you intended to seize our land, you have failed," they said. The king was put to shame. He had to yield. The king admitted defeat. The king went home, with nowhere to hide his face.

~10~

When the king had gone home, the bird spoke to the three children. "Your Grandfather left you a message long ago when you were still small," said the bird. "It concerns if you wish to know your real mother and father, but this could be dangerous. You would have to go to another village, where bad people would want to kill you. That was Grandfather's message a long time ago," said the bird. "If you want to go there, first you must prove your worthiness," said the bird. "Therefore Grandfather planned a difficult test for you. He sent you in quest of flowers that can sing, a bird that can talk, and waters gushing from quicksilver."

"Aku adalah burung yang bisa berbicara. Aku juga disuruh Kakék untuk menolong kalian. Kalian harus gagah dan berani. Kalian harus berhasil mendapatkan semuanya. Itulah yang dikatakan oleh Kakék kepada aku," kata burung kepada tiga bersaudara ini.

Ada lagi pesan Kakék dahulu: "Kalau kalian mengerjakan semua pesan Kakék, dengan cara saling tolong menolong, Kakék memerintahkan aku untuk memperlihatkan buku ini kepada kalian. Isi buku ini adalah cerita asal usul kalian, riwayat ibu dan ayah kalian."

"Itu dia!!" kata burung kepada tiga bersaudara. "Bacalah buku ini, maka kalian tahu siapa kalian sebenarnya."

Dalam buku, ada petunjuk ke desa raja. Dalam buku, raja itu ayahnya.

"I am the bird that can speak. I was commanded by Grandfather to help you. You must prove yourselves brave and strong. You must succeed! That is what Grandfather told me to tell you," said the bird to the three children.

And there was one more message from Grandfather. If the children do everything properly, and cooperate among themselves, and fulfill grandfather's conditions, then Grandfather commanded me to show this book to you three children. This book contains your birth stories, and the genealogies of your mother and father."

"Here!" said the bird to the three children. Read this book, so you will know who you really are."

In the book were directions to the king's village. It said that the king was their father!

Ujang, Buyung dan Upik berangkat ke dusun raja. Sewaktu mereka berjalan ke sana, mereka melewati di jalan tempat seorang perempuan yang terikat. Dilihatnya orang perempuan ini, teringat mereka. Rasanya ada di dalam buku kakék tadi. Sesudah itu mereka bertanya kepada orang di sana.

Kata Ujang "Siapa nama perempuan yang terikat ini?"

Orang menjawab dengan nama isteri raja. Artinya, yang tergantung itu adalah ibu kandung mereka.

Sesudah itu, Ujang menyuruh Upik untuk menjaga ibunya. Ujang dan Buyung pergi ke rumah raja.

Mereka memanggil: "Ayah!"

Waktu mereka memanggil "ayah" raja terkejut.

"Mengapa kalian memanggil saya Ayah?"

Ujang, Buyung and Upik set out immediately for the king's village. On the way they passed the place where the woman was tied up. They looked at the woman and thought of something. Something stirred them from Grandfather's book. They made inquiries to the people there.

"What is the name of this tied up woman?" asked Ujang.

They said the name of the person staked there. They said the name of the king's wife. That meant, the staked prisoner was their mother.

After hearing that, Ujang told Upik to stand guard over their mother.

Ujang and Buyung went straight to the king. "You are our father!" they said to the king.

The king was surprised when the two boys called him 'Father'. "Why are you addressing me as 'father'?" he asked.

Kata Ujang, "Begini, Raja. Inilah buku peninggalan kakék kami. Waktu kami lahir, masih kecil dulu, kakék-nénék memelihara kami. Mereka menemukan kami tiga bersaudara ini di bulak air Ketahun."

Raja membuka bukunya. Dia teringat, "Ini anak saya," katanya. Terkesan dia di dalam hati, ini pekerjaan kakak iparnya. Raja memeluk anaknya berdua ini.

Anak perempuan dan isterinya masih di jalan. Upik menjaga ibunya dengan baik. Ibunya tidak lagi merasakan lukanya. Lukanya sudah bertaup begitu dia melihat anak kandungnya. Dia menangis. Waktu dia menangis, ayah tiga bersaudara itu datang, memotong tali ikatan ibu mereka itu. Katanya, "Ibu tidak bersalah. Ini adalah anak kita yang benar."

Ujang, Buyung dan Upik menurunkan ibunya dari tempat digantung tadi.

"Semuanya ini bukan perbuatan saya," kata ibunya.

Ujang said, "It's like this, King! This is our grandfather's record-book. After we were born, from the time we were infants, our grandparents raised us," he said. "They found us in an eddy in the Ketahun River, all three of us children."

The king opened the book. It all came flooding back. "These are my children," he said. He had thought, down deep, that his wife's older sisters might have done this. He embraced his two sons.

His daughter and his wife were still out there on the road. Their mother was well protected by Upik. She no longer felt any pain from her wounds. They healed as soon as she saw the children. She wept. As she was weeping, the children's father came and chopped the ropes binding her. He said, "It was not your fault. These are our real children."

Ujang, Buyung and Upik lowered their mother down from where she had been staked.

"None of this was my fault," said their mother.



"Mémang bukan," kata raja. "Itu adalah kelakuan kakak Ibu yang berdua itu." Inilah kelima anggota keluarga berangkulan sambil menangis.

Menangis pula kakak isteri raja yang berdua tadi. Meréka menangis sampai parau. Tentara raja mengatakan, "Itu adalah perlakuan kakak isteri raja. Kami membunuhnya saja." Sebelum tiga bersaudara itu sempat berkata "Jangan dibunuh,' sudah putus léhér orang berdua ini. Matilah kakak isteri raja ini balasan perlakuan jahat meréka dulu. Tentara raja sendiri yang membunuhnya.

Jadi inilah cerita tentang tiga bersaudara ini.

*Menanam padi, berbuah padi.*

*Menanam lalang, berbuah apai.*

"Indeed not," said the king. "This was the doing of their two aunts." The five family members embraced each other and wept for joy.

Also weeping and wailing until they were hoarse were the two aunts. The king's soldiers said, "This was done by the king's wife's sisters, by them alone. We will kill them on the spot!" When they said that, the king's soldiers tied the two women up and swiftly executed them. Before the three children could say 'Don't kill them!' their necks had already been cut in two. The older sisters died for their heinous acts. The king's soldiers killed them then and there.

That is the story of how the three lost children found their way home.

*Plant paddy, harvest rice,*

*Plant weeds, harvest nothing.*