

This is Ore and Seagull's story.

Nowadays we hear talk that Ore was human born.

Now a woman was pregnant. Morning Star comes up every morning; that woman went down and called to Morning Star saying, "Here is your wife. I am pregnant. She stays in my stomach. Later she will be born and when she grows up you will marry her." So she kept telling Morning Star like that, letting him know that she was pregnant. She stayed and gave birth to the girl. She gave birth to the girl and then very early one morning as Morning Star came up, she took the girl down and tossed her up and down, showing him. In front of Morning Star she said while showing him, "This is your wife. I told you she would be born. But later she will grow up and I will give her to you to marry." Just like that she kept letting him know every morning.

The girl grew up and was a big girl. They were looking for a way to Morning Star, the road was just too far. Morning Star was not close. He was coming up at the foot of the sky, doing his work. but they were looking for the road to him and didn't know the way. So with her mother she cut a string and they kept rolling and rolling and rolling and rolling until it was very long. They rolled the string and heaped it up and then they tied a young coconut to the end of the string. Then they threw it. It went out and out and out and fell at the foot of the sky. It spun around Morning Star's house post. They tied the string around a canoe and brought it down. Her mother put her things on the canoe and got it ready. Holding the string the girl was going out and going out to the foot of the sky. She came to Morning Star.

When she arrived Morning Star was trying to come up before the Dawn. The girl arrived, so Morning Star took her to his house and put her inside. He said, "I will not stay with you. I am trying to go up, to do my work for the chief people and servants. They are looking for me and that's why I must go up." He said that and then he put on and wore his loin cloth; he held the string and swung himself, he came up and made himself brighter. He did his work like that every morning on and on.

His wife became pregnant. She gave birth to a fish - human. She gave birth to Ore. She gave birth to Ore and then she was frightened. She said, "Mother, what's this? This is not a human. I have given birth to but a fish." That's what she said. She was scared and threw the fish away. It jumped about and climbed onto its mother's lap. So the woman cried out, "Morning Star, go and see. It is not a human I delivered, this is a fish I gave birth to." Morning Star came out and said, "Oh! But it's all right. I am not human. I am always going up and down through the middle of the Ocean. That's why I am with my body born. So do not hate him. You feed him and give him your breast." That's why she gave him her breast.

He grew up. They took him down into the sea. They made a fence across a bay and closed it. There they put him down and that bay was full of ore. One day the ore were playing, going on top of each other. Their mother and father came down to watch and then they went back.

Later on that woman became pregnant again. She became pregnant and a seagull was born. She became frightened, threw it away and it stood up. Then that small seagull climbed back onto her mother's lap. The mother called and said, "Mon, you come and see. What's this bird I gave birth to?" He came in and said, "Oh! I've told you of this. That bird is of my body. So don't hate it. It is of my body." That's what he said. Then seagull grew up.

These two were born and they were all over the place. The fish grew up and filled the sea. Schools of them played every evening and morning. There the parents came down to watch. And then it would get dark or the sun would begin to rise and the fish would go back to their place.

Seagull said to their father Morning Star, "Father and mother, where are our uncles and grannies staying?" "Oh they are not close. I came here and gave birth to you. But! Look up. Just sea on top. Look and go to a beach. From there I came down." "I would like for us to go up and see our uncles and grannies." "Oh, it is not close where you want to go up." She argues with her father. He said, "Alright you go up like you're saying. So you will go up. It's not close so you must be strong. You will go up and up and up and up. Later you will arrive at a river. You go up and you will see a point of land there. When you arrive you will go close, up to the house at the really far end. That is your grandmother and grandfather's house. That is your uncle and grannie's village. You will see that village and go down and sit down.

Then the small seagull flew and flew and flew and came up and up and up until she arrived at the village. She sat on a house top. Little boys saw her and said, "Mother there's a bird sitting on the house peak." They were trying to hit her, she flew down to the edge of the verandah. "Aga! Don't you hit her. We just don't know, this could be a human. The girl went down this way We don't know whether the bird came from there." They were talking this way. They took food and gave it to her and she ate. Her grandmother and grandfather came from the garden. They came up and knew her and she recognised them so everything was alright. She hopped up to her grandmother and grandfather and climbed onto her grandmother's lap. They stroked and stroked her and felt proud. Then the little seagull told them how her mother had gone down and how the boys and girls had been born. She told them this and they listened til she finished. They took her with them and slept. When daybreak came they cooked food for her and she ate. Then she went back down.

She came to where Morning Star and her mother were staying and told them. They listened and then her brother Ore said, "Oh! I wish we could go up and see my uncles and grannies. Let us go see them." but his father said, "Oh! Your uncles and grannies will not leave you alone. They won't know you are their boys and later leave you alone. They will take you, kill you, chop your heads into pieces. Later they will cook you, bake and eat you because you are fish." So they said, "But we still can go up." They argued with their mother and father like this. So he said, "All right all right. You stay first of all and then your small sister will go up and tell your uncles and grannies. They will fix their nets and get everying ready. They will put new strings on them. After she comes back she will say 'all right now you go up'."

So they stayed and their sister seagull flew and flew and flew until she came to her uncles and grannies. She told them and they listened. They took all of their old nets put new strings on them and fixed them. They made new nets and threw them into the houses. Seagull went down and told her family. Then the fish came up. Schools and schools and schools of ore

came up and up. They were coming up and the sky was thundering. They say that when ore are coming up you will hear this thunder noise. It's their boys and girls coming up, not other people, not things not something unknown - you should know them - they are your children. They say this. So the thunder let the village people know the fish were coming up. In the early morning at daybreak the fish came up. That little boy Ore tried to come up and their uncles and grannies watched them. The fish came up to the village. They, the fish, felt proud and happy. They jumped around and played. They came up and up, right to the sea shore. There they threw their tails, came up playing backwards and forwards, jumping and playing. Their uncles and grannies were proud.

Then the uncles and grannies got their nets and took them down. Schools and schools fish they caught; they took them up and poured them out and then they caught more and poured them out. They ate and ate and ate. They tied a platform together with a bottom and top part and lay the fish there. They ate and kept eating until they were tired of eating. They became tired of baking and cooking. They grew tired of these things and so Ore, born of human body, returned down to his mother and father.

That's why nowadays Ore stays until his coming up time, making noise as he comes up. We hear that noise. We know the story. That's why we prepare the strings and this thing and that as they come up. It's like that, Ore was born form a human body but he was the elder. He was born and then seagull. That's why now Ore comes up with seagull and then the go down playing like that, jumping with their brothers. And then the seagull will go down to sit on the fish tails. They fly above and go down to sit. Like this the fish, ore, play with their brothers. Seagull is the younger, Ore older.

It's like that and so we hear this story from Wanigela. Among those people, Wenselas is the younger brother and Bilbert the older. This story belonged to their grannies. Ore was born from them with seagull and that's why seagull (kana) is now their namesake. So the story is not unknown, Ore not unknown. He was born of a human body, along with seagull. These people, their uncles and grannies, stay near Rawagi. Here it ends.

Notes:

Joyce explained that the human-like blood of Ore (tuna?) is evidence of his human origins.