

(translated, Oct. 4, 1982)

They were living up the stream. They came down to fight with a boy named Sifoma. Sifoma and his mother stayed in the middle. The girls went and were getting pawpaws from the garden. They came back and went down to the river to peel them. The girl standing on top was a pretty girl, but the girls standing beneath peeling pawpaws were ugly. The pretty girl is on top. He pulled his canoe down, got his string bag and betel nut, and put them on the canoe. He paddled and paddled and paddled. While he was paddling, the girl standing on top looked and saw him. She said, "Aie! Peel my pawpaw and give it to me to eat." They said, "Aga! You come down and peel it yourself." When they saw him they took the skins of the pawpaws and threw them at him. "Eh, where are you going? You come up here." While they were talking he went away.

He went right down. He stayed there and he was chewing. He finished chewing and came up. He came back and came to old woman and old man. He said, "A pretty girl is sitting on top. Those ones standing on the stones, peeling pawpaws are ugly. The pretty one is on top." He went up. While he was going up the girl was chopping wood by the river bank. Sifona went up in the canoe. While he was paddling, the girl looked and saw him. "Hey, you come in and both of us will go up." He said, "Aga! You go up and tell your parents first. I won't take you without their permission. You tell them first and I'll take you up."

She went up to her sister. She said, "Yeiya, we'll go down and you will carry one bundle of wood and I will carry the other. We'll carry them and then come." They went down carrying the wood. The elder sister looked and saw Sifoma, "Aree! What a handsome boy! A beautiful youth! Aree! My fin, both of us will stay." The younger sister said, "Oh, both of us won't stay. This is mine." The older sister said, "All right. There are boys in our village."

The younger sister went down to the canoe and then went up with the boy. He went to his garden. Then his mother called, "Sifoma, the pig is standing down there in the garden. Go spear it and bring it. Cook and eat it. When he was going in, another woman looked and saw him. She went in after the girl. The girl said, "Eh, Why did you come up? Who told you to come up? Shame on you. (kumamasate or mussessa). You just came up." The boy brought the pig, they cut it up and cooked it. They were eating and gave the thigh to the other woman. She put it in the string bag and carried it down to her husband. "Good boy, a good boy! We are going to eat with him. He killed the pig and brought it. He gave us the thigh and I brought it down."

She came up another day. The wife said, "Why did you come up? Hey, shame on you. You just came up." While she was talking the lady sat down and started to chew betelnut. She was chewing while she sat. She called to Sifoma's wife, "You come up and we'll chew. What are you saying? Come up and chew." She went up and sat down. They were both chewing. They were chewing when the husband came back with the pig. He cut it up and they cooked it. They gave the thigh to the woman who put it in her stringbag and went down. "Oh, the pretty girl! The boy must pay the brideprice and then she can live with him. The girl won't live with him without paying the bride price. He must pay the bride price."

"So you go up and tell your uncles, your grandfathers found the saa wakeki¹ and they are all with your uncles. They are keeping them." The wife said, "I am not a boy. I won't go and do it."

¹. Pig tusk or snake teeth ornament.

When they were about to go down the husband went and killed a pig. He killed another one and killed another one. He brought them home and cooked them, cut them up and they were cooking. The uncles arrived. He said, "The uncles came down - the mother's side and the father's side and the brothers." He put their pig aside. The uncles' he put aside. After doing that, the uncles said, "Sifoma, what are we going to do with this? Send the word to your wife's uncles and her father, the brothers - they will come up and take it down themselves." They said that and he went up. He said, "Oh!! This girl is just coming down. There is nothing in her hand, she is just coming down." He said "Aga! My in-laws told me to tell your uncles to come and take the food down themselves. How will we take it down ourselves?" So they went up themselves and brought it down. They stayed.

