

The Boy Who Became a Log**Nita Keru 3 August 1982 #69**

10:14 tape 39

A girl lived with her parents. One day they all went to the garden. The girl and her mother were weeding. The man went to work by himself. The girl wanted to have a wash. She went down. A young man was attracted to her. He went down to the river where she was going to have her wash. He changed himself into a log and stayed under the water. The girl went down and took off her skirt and put it on what she thought was a log. After she had her wash, she got her clothes and was about to go back to the garden. This young man went ahead and turned himself back into a log. She came walking and saw the log. She said to herself, "I put my clothes on this log. How is it that it is now lying in front of me?" So she became frightened and went home.

While she was returning to the village, the young man went ahead to her house and stood on the girl's sleeping mat. There he again turned himself into a log. As soon as the girl came into the house she saw that log and became frightened. She went out and sat on the verandah. Her mother now came home after her. When she came to the village her daughter told her about what had happened. The mother saw the log.

Both mother and daughter were sitting on the verandah when the father arrived. They told him. He went and took the log. He thought that it was just a stick, so he took it to the back of the village and left it there. In the night the young man went to them and said, "You thought that I was a log so you took me to the back of the village. But I am a human being." And so he married the girl.

