

Keva was living in Goira. In the other village two sisters lived with their brother Dere. They put *manu via* there. The sisters went to dance there and came back. When they returned, the boy said to his two sisters, "Orovi and Neneva, get *si'si* and bake them for me so that I can use them tomorrow night."¹ The sister did not do it. They were sleepy and went to sleep.

The boy woke up in the morning and saw that the flowers were not baked, so he baked them himself. Then he got his betelnut and walked. He went into the house and decorated himself with the *si'si*. He then jumped down and called out to his sisters, "if you follow me I will kill one of you." When the girls heard that, they remained in the house weeping.

Boys and girls in that *yawu* village saw that the girls were in the house, so they called to them, "Orovi and Neneva! Come out and we'll go and dance." But the girls said, "our brother told us that if we go he will hit us, so we must stay back."

When the dance was over the brother came back to the house to sleep. He told that sisters to bake his *si'si* and food. They did this and he slept. In the middle of the night he got up, ate and jumped down. He took his *misi* (club) and said, "You must not follow me. If you come after I will kill you with this *misi*."

All the time he kept doing that and the two sisters were upset. "Our elder brother doesn't want to stay with us. He hates us," they said. "We had better leave this place." So when the brother went off to dance, they took down a stringbag of *kerefun* and another of *embobi* and shared them between themselves. Both of them went down and walked away from that village.

They walked until they came to a split in the road. So they said, "We'll sit down and eat our food here." The elder one said, "We will eat and then we will follow one road together." But the younger sister did not want to do this. She said, "You go up one and I'll go up the other. If we both follow one road, they might kill you and I would cry when I saw that. So it is better to go separately and that way it will be alright whether you or I are safe or murdered." So the elder one went down one path and the younger, Orovi, went down the other. She walked and walked until she came to Keva's village.

Keva was alone in the village as all the people had gone to the gardens. As the girl came in, Keva saw her. Keva thought that someone was following her or that she was with a group. But when no one came he greeted her and invited her to come to his house. He put down the mat and she sat on the verandah. He asked her, "what happened that you would come here?" When she had told him everything, Keva got up and said, "you are my wife."

She stayed and stayed until she was pregnant. She gave birth to a boy — Ymaigero. After that, Oboa was born. After that she gave birth to Korofera. After that the last one was born — Wadaruki.² Oh, then she gave birth to Beneki (also a daughter, Rurukai).

Taunumbo's father was Yeyova. His aunt was married to Yori³ so the boy used to go up, visit her, and come back again. Oboa went to stay at Yori, married a wife and stayed there. The wife gave birth to many children. They stayed at Yori. But Taunumbo used to visit. Eventually he married a woman from that place and stayed there too. Beneki left the place and stayed at Gurugu. So plenty of people lived at Yori — Taunumbo, Oboa. That place was very big.

Oboa is not *kawo*, he is *sabu*. All the rest in the village are *kawo* people. So he is a big head who fights a lot. He always carries a *suma* (long club) and wants to fight. If we want him to fight he will. If we tell him he will get the person because he is ready with his *suma*.

¹The flowers are wrapped with scraped coconut in leaves. This turns them brown, but creates a strong odour. This is always done.

²Stonewigg's spirit familiar.

³A small mountain.

You must know that I am a good man, so I do not do bad things. I did not tell him to kill others or to make them sick. This is my story. The man who looks after that *suma* is my man, but I do not tell him to do these things. If I happened to do it, they would call my name out the same as they do for Jairus.

Oboa chants as follows when he wants to fight:

Oboa ria mare mare ria Oboa

Taune ria Oboa Oboa ria mare