

*Shulupsimanda Parlu*  
Story of the Shulupsi Bird

As performed by Francisco Tandioy, in Bloomington, Indiana, summer of 1982.

I

Ñujpata tia-rka-si, sug iapa suma warmi.  
In the old days there was, they say, a very beautiful woman.

Chi warmi ri-rka-si, sug kari-pagma tia-ri-ngapa, ña kasara-ngapa.  
That woman went to the home of a young man to live there, perhaps to marry.

Chi-ura, pai-pa suigra tuku-ngapa ka-g-ka, iacha-rka-si, manda-nga ima rura-i tia-ska, rura-ngapa  
Then her future mother-in-law liked to order her to do whatever needed to be done.

Sura-ká iacha-rka-si, kacha-nga iamta-ngapa, sura-ká piun-ma, sura-ká aswa-ngapa.  
Sometimes she would send her to gather wood, sometimes to work in the fields, sometimes to make maize beer.

II

Sug puncha, pai-pa kusa tuku-ngapa ka-g-ka, llugsi-rka-si trabaja-ngapa. [5]  
One day her future husband left to work in the fields.

Chi-ura-ka, pai-pa suigra tuku-ngapa ka-g-ka, uraiku-chi-pu-rka-si, kimsa saparu sara.  
Then her future mother-in-law brought down for her three baskets of corn.

Nispa-ka ni-rka-si, dius-manda, kimsa manga aswa aswa-pua-ngui, kai kimsa saparu sara-wa.  
And then she told her: "Please make three barrels of maize beer from these three baskets of corn."

Nispa-ka, chi pai-pa suigra tuku-ngapa ka-g-ka, llugsi-rka-si trabaja-ngapa.  
And then her future mother-in-law left to work in the fields.

Chi-ura-ka, chi sipas-ka sug-lla ka-spa sara-lla-wa-si, kimsa manga junda-gta aswa-rka.  
At that time that girl, being all alone, with just a little corn she made enough maize beer to fill three barrels.

Ña pai-pa suigra chaia-ura, chi sipas-ka kancha-pi-si, uma ñagchari-spa tia-ku-rka. [10]  
Later when her mother-in-law returned, that girl was sitting in the patio combing her hair.

Chi-ura-ka, pai-pa suigra tuku-ngapa ka-g-ka, kalpa-si uku-ma iaiku-rka kawa-ngapa, ari ña-chu

aswa-pua-rka.

At that time her future mother-in-law runs inside to enter the house, to see if she had already made the maize beer for her.

Iaiku-ura-ka, chasa-lla-si ka-rka kimsa saparu junda.

When she entered the house the three baskets were full just the same.

Chasa kawa-spa-ka, askurinti-si piña-gri-rka, ajai, ajai-si, piña-rka chi sipas-ta, mana aswa-pu-ska-manda.

Seeing that she went to scold her in strong words, aha, aha, she scolded the girl for not making maize beer for her.

Chi-ura-ka, chi sipas waka-spa, i rabia-ri-spa ni-rka-si, chi manga-kuna junda aswa tia-ska-sina-ma.

At that time that girl, crying and becoming angry, said: “These barrels were already full of maize beer.”

Kawa-chi-spa-ka, ni-rka-si, kuna-ura-manda-ka, kimsa saparu-wa-ka sug-lla manga-lla-mi aswa-nkangichi.

Showing her the maize beer, she said: “From now on, with three baskets you will make only one barrel of maize beer.

Nuka-pa timpu-ka iacha-rka-ni-mi aswa-nga, kimsa muru-lla-wa, sug manga aswa aswa-nga.

In my time I was accustomed to making one barrel of maize beer with only three kernels.

Chasa ni-spa-ka, shulupsi pisku tuku-g-samu-spa-si.

Speaking like that, she turned into a shulupsi bird.

Chi aswa-lla-pi-ta arma-spa, bula-spa mitiku-rka.

Dipping into that maize beer, she flew away.

Chasa bula-spa mitiku-ura, chi kimsa aswa manga tugia-rka-si.

When she flew away like that, the three barrels of maize beer cracked.

Chi-ura-ka, añangu-kuna-lla-si, upia-g-samu-rkakuna.

And then the ants just came, they say, and drank it all up.

[20]

### III

Pai-pa wawa chaia-ura, tapu-rka-si, ¿mai-pi-taka nuka-pa warmi-ka ka?

When her son returned, he asked her: “Where is my woman?”

Chi-ura-ka ni-rka-si, manda-rka-ni-mi kam-ba warmi-ta aswa-nga, nispa-ka ri-rka-ni-mi trabaja-ngapa.

At that time she said: “I told your woman to make maize beer, and then I went to work.

Trabaja-ngapa ri-spa chaia-mu-ura-ka, kancha-pi-mi ñagchari-spa, tia-ku-rka.  
When I was returning from working, she sat in the patio combing her hair.

Chi-manda-ka, iuia-ri-wa-rka-mi, mana-chari aswa-rka.  
Because of that I thought to myself that she hadn't made the maize beer.

Nispa ri-rka-ni-mi kawa-ngapa, sara saparu-kuna-ta, chi-ura-ka, junda-mi ka-rka. [25]  
Then I went to see the baskets of corn, at that time they were full.

Chi-manda, askurinti-mi piña-rka-ni.  
Because of that I really scolded her.

Chi-ura-ka, aswa-ska-chu ka-rka.  
At that time the maize beer had not been made.

Chasa piña-ura-ka rabia-ri-spa,  
She was getting angry when I scolded her like that,

kawa-chi-wa-rka-mi aswa manga, i nispa-ka shulupsi tuku-spa-mi, mitiku-rka.  
she showed me the maize beer barrel and then, turning into a shulupsi bird, she disappeared.

Chi warmi ni-wa-rka-mi, sug-lla sara-lla-wa-si, kimsa manga aswa-ska ka-rka. [30]  
That woman told me: 'With just one ear of corn three barrels of maize beer used to be made.'"

#### IV

Mana mama-ta ni-rka-iki, ama iapa manda-pua-ku-ngi.  
"Didn't I tell you, Mother, not to be ordering her about so much?

Ianga kawa-pua-ngi, kam mama mana uia-ngi-chu.  
You see it's in vain, you, Mother, don't listen.

Kam tukui nuka-pa warmi-kuna-ta-mi, chasa mitiku-chi-pua-ngi, di rabu-manda.  
You make all my women leave like this from anger.

Chi-manda-mi ñujpa kawa-nga tiá, nispa-mi piña-nga tiá.  
Because of that next time one must look, then one must scold.

Mama mana chasa piña-pua-ngi-ma, chi warmi-ta, ña-mi nuka kasara-ni. [35]  
Mother, if you hadn't scolded that woman so, I would already have married.

I tukui warmi-kuna ña-mi, kimsa muru sara-lla-wa, ña-mi aswa-nkuna, sug manga junda.  
And all women would already use only three kernels of corn to make a full barrel of maize beer.

Tukui warmi-kuna, mana-mi isku-naku-rshangichi, kai-tuku achka sara, sug manga aswa-ngapa-g-lla.  
All women would not have to shuck so much corn to make only one barrel of maize beer.”

V  
Chi-lla-pa-si, pasinsi-wa-ichi, atun taita-kuna.  
Just like that the grandfathers shared it with me.