

Ni'i Ngka'ulo-ulo

A story in the Kulisusu language of Southeast Sulawesi, Indonesia

A young woman dressed like a man is tested to see if she's the real deal.

Kulisusu	Indonesian	English
<p>Daaho ana ntamahako dāndo opicu, ndopo'onto samia cina pompetamata. Ipompake songko te baju ntama. Ibiasa moone ni'i ngka'ulo-ulo. Tamahako a'iso ndoko'uni, "Ingko'o a'ai io cina." Ilawani, "Inao, unguḍe a'ai io tama."</p>	<p>Ada sekelompok pemuda, mereka berjumlah tujuh orang, melihat seorang perempuan yang berlagak seperti laki-laki. Ia memakai songkok dan baju laki-laki. Ia pandai memanjat kelapa ular-ular (pohon kelapa yang bengkok batangnya menyerupai ular). Pemuda-pemuda itu bilang, "Kamu ini perempuan." Ia menjawab, Bukan, saya ini laki-laki."</p>	<p>Once there were seven young men, who saw a girl acting like a man. She wore men's clothing including a fez cap. And she regularly climbed coconut trees with twisty trunks. The young men said to her, "You're a girl." She replied, "No I'm not, I'm a man."</p>
<p>Taendo tamahako a'iso, "Ke ngkaa'iko tandaio upoone ni'i, keu tepoone'o koma'ana ingko'o a'ai io tama, ke hinau tepoone koma'ana io cina. Leumo tolako i pulo a'iso topoone ni'i." Pociba'ako tamahako a'iso hinando tepoone, io cina a'iso itepoone maliwa kai leuhu lolono ni'i tei poone i polopano. Tamahako a'iso ndopogau, "Koma'ana inadē a'ai io tama."</p>	<p>Kata pemuda itu, "Kalau begitu, coba kamu panjat kelapa. Kalau kamu bisa panjat berarti kamu laki-laki, kalau tidak bisa panjat berarti perempuan. Mari kita pergi ke pulau itu dan memanjat kelapa." Kebetulan pemuda-pemuda itu tidak bisa memanjat, sedangkan perempuan itu dapat memanjat dengan cepat sampai ke puncak dan naik ke pelepahnya. Pemuda-pemuda itu berkata, "Berarti, ia adalah laki-laki."</p>	<p>The young men replied, "If you're a man, try climbing a coconut tree. If you can climb it, it means you're a man, but if not it means you're a girl. Come, let's go to that island and climb coconut trees." As it turned out, the young men weren't able to climb, while the girl was able to climb quickly to the crown of the tree and lift herself into the fronds. The young men said, "It means he is a man."</p>

<p>Sai teuraa i lolono ni'i ipelihemo i rahano. Ontohomo balo-balo i ba'ono rahano, kai waa tei curu e'eno matano. Tamahako itonia ndocineio e'eno matano, kando silepio, kua'iko imo'ahi namino. Ndoko'unimo tamahako a'iso, "Ingko'o a'ai io cina." Cina a'iso iko'uni, "Oh inao, matangu ikikio humeono ni'i kaku eso'o kai limba e'eno matangu."</p>	<p>Waktu ia sampai di atas kelapa ia melihat ke rumahnya. Ia dapat melihat jendela di bagain atap rumahnya, maka berlinang dan bercucuranlah air matanya. Pemuda-pemuda tadi menadah air matanya, dan mereka jilat ternyata rasanya asin. Berkatalah pemuda itu, "Kamu ini perempuan." Perempuan itu berkata, "Oh, tidak. Mataku digigit semut kelapa sehingga saya gosok dan keluar air mataku."</p>	<p>When she arrived at the top of the coconut tree, she looked over to her house. She saw the windows in the roof of her house, and her tears flowed and dripped down. The young men cupped their hands and caught her tears, and they licked them and it turned out they were salty. The young men said, "You're a girl." The girl responded, "Oh, no, my eyes were bitten by coconut ants and I rubbed them, so my eyes teared up."</p>
<p>Ndoko'unimo tamahako a'iso, "Tandaio to'umemekio kulino pongoci a'ai, kei sombu koma'ana ingko'o io tama." Sai umemekio, kua'iko isombuho kulino pongoci a'iso te io tamahako a'iso ndosombuho duka. Taeno tamahako a'iso, "Oh, ingko'o a'ai io tama."</p>	<p>Kata pemuda itu, "Coba kita kencingi kulit lokan/tiram ini, kalau tembus berarti kamu adalah laki-laki." Setelah dikencingi ternyata ia bisa menembus kulit tiram itu, dan juga pemuda-pemuda itu tembus. Kata mereka, "Oh, berarti kamu ini memang laki-laki."</p>	<p>The young men said, "Let's try peeing on this shell. If the pee reaches the shell, it means you're a man." So she peed, and it reached the shell, and the young men peed, and their pee also reached the shell. Said the young men, "Oh, you're a man."</p>
<p>Rouno ndorahiakonomo cina itonia potae io tama, igaumo, "Ke ngkaa'iko, beku bansulemo i kampoku. Ndowawaimo cina a'iso i labusa, kai poone i bangka.</p>	<p>Karena mereka sudah menuduh perempuan tadi adalah laki-laki, maka ia berkata, "Kalau begitu, saya mau pulang ke kampungku." Di antarlal perempuan itu ke pelabuhan dan ia naik perahu.</p>	<p>Because they said she was a man, she said, "Since it's like that, I want to return to my village." They escorted her to the harbor, and she boarded a ship.</p>
<p>Sai olai ibintanio labusa, iwungkahiomu songkono, kai cuuna wuuno, leuho wicino, sa'arino kai wungkahio baju ntamano, kua'iko inade a'iso io cina.</p>	<p>Setelah jauh meninggalkan pelabuhan ia membuka songkoknya dan rambutnya jatuh terurai di betisnya dan membuka baju laki-lakinya, ternyata ia adalah perempuan.</p>	<p>When she was a ways from the harbor, she took off her hat, and her hair fell down, reaching to her calves. Then she removed her men's clothing, and it turned out she was a girl.</p>

<p>Ahirino ndo'onoo tamahako a'iso ndokalawu-lawua. Ndosabumo i tahi kando nangi lumahari bangsa a'iso. Daaho samia tama iko'imani, nahina isabu numangi, ako kadi isawi i koli-koli kai bose lumahari bangsa a'iso kai leuho kampo tei salamati.</p>	<p>Akhirnya enam orang pemuda itu tergila-gila. Mereka terjun di laut dan berenang mengejar perahu itu. Ada satu orang yang beriman dan tak gelisah ia tak berenang tetapi menumpang di sampan dan mendayung mengejar perahu itu sampai ke kampung dan ia selamat.</p>	<p>Then the six young men went crazy over her. They jumped into the sea and swam, trying to catch up with the boat. But there was one young man who had faith (didn't go crazy). He didn't jump in and swim, rather he just got in a dugout and rowed after the boat, and he arrived safely at the village.</p>
<p>Sai leuho i kampo, tama samiano a'ai ipoonemo i rahano tamano cina a'iso, kai pogau, "Ungkudè a'ai io jodono anamiu, teku mo'iliako kumawiakono rouno ungdudè a'ai lumeuho i ri'ai."</p>	<p>Setelah sampai di kampung pemuda yang satu ini naik ke rumah bapaknya perempuan itu dan berkata, "Saya inilah jodoh anakmu dan saya ingin kawini, karena saya inilah yang sampai ke sini."</p>	<p>When he arrived at the village, the young man went alone to the girl's father's house and said, "Me here, I'm the potential marriage partner for your daughter, and I want to marry her because I'm the one who made it here."</p>
<p>Ahirino ndopakawi'indamo. Io tamahako ndo'onoono itonia ndomatemo i tongano olaro.</p>	<p>Akhirnya mereka dikawinkan. Sedangkan enam orang pemuda tadi meninggal di tengah laut yang dalam.</p>	<p>Then the two of them got married. Whereas the other six men drowned in the ocean deep.</p>
<p>Arimo.</p>	<p>Tamat.</p>	<p>The end.</p>

Notes concerning the text

The phrase used in the title of this story, *ni'i ngka'ulo-ulo*, refers to coconut palms that have a winding trunk (rather than being erect or gently curved, the trunk has irregular twists and bends).

Information about the text

This story was told by Ibunda Waode Samiyrah. Indonesian and Kulisusu versions prepared by her son, La Ode Umar M., circa October 2013. English translation by David Mead, December 2013.



< La Ode Umar M., October 2013

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