

# Guilty conscience?

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Umutimanama  
ucira urubanza?

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Once upon a time, there was an old woman who lived with her three grandchildren.

Kera, hari umukecuru wabanaga n'abuzukuru be batatu.



Every morning they all went to work in the field.

One day, one of the girls said, "Grandmother, I don't feel well today."

Buri gitondo bose bajya gukora mu umurima.

Umunsi umwe, umwe mu bakobwa ati:  
"Nyogokuru, uyu munsi ntabwo meze neza."



So, the old woman sent  
the child home.

Umukecuru yohereje  
umwana mu rugo.



When the girl got home,  
she saw that there was  
meat in the pot.

She ate all the meat and  
then went to sleep.

Umukobwa ageze mu  
rugo, abona ko mu  
nkono harimo inyama.

Yariye inyama zose  
hanyuma araryama.



The old woman and two children were tired and hungry when they returned from the field.

Grandmother prepared ugali for supper, to eat with the meat she had cooked that morning.

Umukecuru n'abana babiri barushye kandi bashonje bagarutse bava mu murima.

Nyirakuru yateguye ubugari bwo kurisha za nyama yari yatetse mu gitondo.

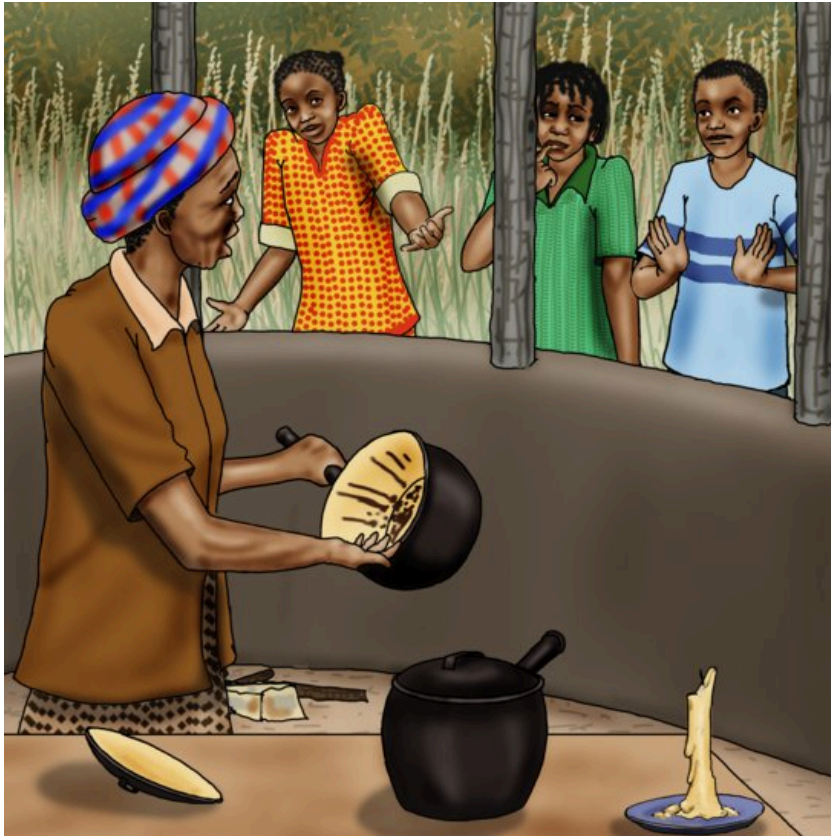


She opened the pots to  
serve her grandchildren.

When she opened the pot  
with the meat, it was  
empty!

Yakinguye inkono kugira  
ngo agaburire  
abuzukuru be.

Afunguye inkono  
y'inyama, yari irimo  
ubusa!



"Who ate the meat?" asked Grandmother, frowning.

But all three grandchildren shook their heads. "Not me," each one said.

"Ninde wariye inyama?" nyirakuru arabaza, yubitse amaso.

Ariko abuzukuru uko ari batatu bazunguza umutwe. Umwe wese ati: "Ntabwo ari njye."





Their grandmother tied a rope across the river.

She told each of them to walk on the rope as they sang a song.

Nyirakuru yaboshye umugozi hakurya y'uruzi.

Yabwiye buri wese muri bo kugendera ku mugenzi igihe baririmbaga indirimbo.



"The one that ate the meat will fall into the river, and learn to tell the truth," warned Grandmother.

The first granddaughter walked quickly across the river, singing the song.

Nyirakuru yaburiye ati:  
"Uwariye inyama aragwa  
mu ruzi, kandi yige  
kuvugisha ukuri."

Umwuzukuru wa mbere  
yagenze vuba yambuka  
uruzi, aririmba indirimbo.

The song went like this:

If I am the one who ate the meat,  
May the rope break and drop me in the lake.  
Let me fall deep into the lake,  
May the rope break and drop me in the lake.

Indirimbo yagenze gutya:

Niba ari njye wariye inyama,  
Umugozi ucike unjugunye mu kiyaga.  
Reka ngwe mu kiyaga,  
Reka umugozi ucike unjugunye mu kiyaga.



The other two grandchildren began to argue with each other.

The girl said to the boy, "You go next." The boy replied, "No, you go next."

Abandi buzukuru babiri batangiye gutongana.

Umukobwa abwira umuhungu ati: "Genda ukurikira." Umuhungu aramusubiza ati: "Oya, genda ukurikira!"



The granddaughter who ate the meat was scared and shivering.

As she stepped forward to walk on the rope, she slipped and fell into the river.

Umwuzukuru wariye inyama yagize ubwoba ahinda umushyitsi.

Amaze gutera intambwe ngo agende ku mugozi, aranyerera agwa mu ruzi.



"Help! Help!" shouted the girl.

Grandmother said to the other two, "She is guilty, but we must help her."

"Fasha! Fasha!" umukobwa arasakuza.

Nyirakuru yabwiye abandi babiri ati: "Ni umunyamakosa, ariko tugomba kumufasha."



Together they pulled the frightened girl out of the river.

Since that day, the old woman's grandchildren have always told the truth.

Bose hamwe bakuye umukobwa ufite ubwoba mu ruzi.

Kuva uwo muni, abuzukuru b'umukecuru bahoraga bavuga ukuri.

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