

Sle'eembas

A long long time ago in a country where animals loved each other very much, the buffalo and the lion lived together in one cave. While they were living together, the buffalo gave birth and the lion gave birth. In the mornings the lion went out to hunt, and the buffalo went out to eat leaves, leaving the children at home. On another day, when the child of the buffalo had grown a bit, the child of the buffalo should not fly (should he?). He was flying. When the buffalo returned, his child was flying. She told his child, ah, why are you flying? You will kick the child of the lion in his eye, the lion will finish you. You should not fly. Why did his child know this? The following day, if the buffalo went out to eat leaves, the lion went to hunt, the buffalo went to eat leaves. That day the child of the buffalo kicked in the eye of the lion. When the buffalo returned the eye of the child of the lion was kicked into. And he said, uu, what should I do now? The day the eye of the child of the lion was kicked in, is the day that the lion will kill us. What will happen now, if she will not leave? Now the eye of the child of the lion is blind, he is crying here, she leaves with his child. She went and went and arrived and she met with the giraffe. She told him, giraffe, how will you save me now? Please my brother save me from the conflict with the lion. Her child was hurt in the eye by my child. The giraffe said, we, walk on my brother, she is close to get me. How should I help you, me, I cannot help you. We, walk on. The buffalo walked on and on. She did not meet the lion yet when she arrived at the houses of the people with her child. She had left the child of the lion. When she came back home, she left his home first. When she left he sang, when she arrived, she said people from here *hombo naana* you should help me from the conflict *hombo naana* with the child of the lion, my child hurt the eye of his child. They said herher we cannot help you with the conflict, go on, go far. When he arrived at the second house, he said that song of his <she said *hombo naana* you should help me from the conflict *hombo naana* with the child of the lion, my child hurt the eye of his child>. He was told, we cannot help you, go on. There was no-one that could help her with the conflict of the lion. He went on and on and he reached Sle'eembás. Sle'eembás is a man with a bow. When he arrived he said him, Sle'eembás help me, with the conflict of the lion. My child hurt the eye of his child. Now, how can you help me? He told her, me, I will help you, what help do you have for me? He told him, if you help me, two of my udders are yours. Two are for my child. He told her, be welcome. He welcomed her inside. The lion came back. He looked and he smelled, he followed her to the house. When Sle'eembás let the buffalo inside, he started to prepare poisonous arrows. When the lion arrived, he walked around the house, he prepared a way to shoot the lion. He drilled a small hole in the house. When the lion arrived at his house, he sang at the house. When he arrived he said, people from here *hombo naana* have you seen her that is lost *hombo naana* his child hurt the eye of my child *hombo naana*. The first house told her we have not seen her, he passed here to go upward. He followed and followed her, and he reached Sle'eembás. He told him, aysee, the lost one, have you seen her? He said, which lost one? She said from my cow. He said, I have not seen anyone. And Sle'eembás said, I have not seen anything. She said, aysee, the footprints of my cow get lost here. My cow is in your place. Take her out. He said, I do not take her out. And he said, you do not take her out? And he said, I do not take her out. He said, ah, what do you do? He said, aysee, when you want to come, you and me will arrive. The lion moved back, now he started to fight. Sle'eembás let one arrow go, and he shot at her with one arrow, he shot the first time. When he moved back he was looking for a moment to jump. But Sle'eembás had closed his door. Where would he go now? And he walked around the house. And he shot the second time. The third time he let her fall, he killed her. He killed her. When he killed her, he skinned her. He took off his skin. He put out his skin to dry. He dried it. That day he milked his

buffalo, his two udders and the ones from his child. Another day when the buffalo saw that the lion was dead, ah, she kicked. She refused Sle'eembás now. And he said, ah this buffalo now, this buffalo that I saved from the lion, he kicks me today. He took that skin of the lion when he went to milk her. He milked her this way. She cheated because of the skin. She cheated that skin. Another day, he discovered it to be that skin. That was not a lion. She refused. Now Sle'eembás left and went to walk to the beach. He said, now how will I manage to walk to the beach, I can only walk. When he was talking he said, ee, God, what should I do. This buffalo I saved from the lion, she told me, two of my udders are yours, now I am used to the milk. Now she doesn't like to give me. Now, will Kwashiorkor kill me? My children have been killed by kwashiorkor. In this matter the thing later only some grass. He put the grass in front of him and said, go and send this grass, when you arrive you should give her this grass and you say, ha, cow. And he took the grass and he sent it home when he arrived, the buffalo was there inside. And he gave her the grass, while saying, ah, cow. The buffalo said, nhhhh. She said, nhhhh, while eating the grass. And in this way he milked her. He takes care of her now. She is his cow now. He did not return to the sea again. Until today. This is the way the Iraqw got cows. The story ends here.