








Ijoolee gagaa

Children of wax

-  Southern African Folktale
-  Wiehan de Jager
-  Demoze Degefa
-  Oromo / English
-  Level 2





Yeroo took matii gammachudhan
jiratu tokkotu ture.

...

Once upon a time, there lived a
happy family.

Wal-lolani hinbekan. Matii isaani
manatis ta'e allati nigargaaru.

...

They never fought with each other.
They helped their parents at home
and in the fields.





Garuu gara ibbiddati siquu
dhorgamani turan.

...

But they were not allowed to go
near a fire.



Hojii isaani halkan hojachuu qaban.
Sababin isaas matiin kuni gagaa
irra hojataman!

...

They had to do all their work
during the night. Because they
were made of wax!



Isaan kessaa mucaan tokko garu
gara adduti bahuu fedhee ture.

...

But one of the boys longed to go
out in the sunlight.



Kessaahu gaftokko bayee hawee
garu obbolawan isaa isa dhorgan.

...

One day the longing was too
strong. His brothers warned him...

Dhorgam suni bayee ture. Muccichi
addu kessati baqee jira.

...

But it was too late! He melted in
the hot sun.





Ijooleen gaga yeroo obbolessi isani
baqu argudhan bayee aaran.

...

The wax children were so sad to
see their brother melting away.



Sagantaa qaban turan. Gagaa baqee sana gara simbrooti gedaran.

...

But they made a plan. They shaped the lump of melted wax into a bird.



Obbolessa isaani simbirro kan gara
gaara guddaa gessan.

...

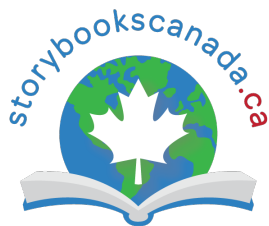
They took their bird brother up to a
high mountain.



Akkuma addun bateen sirbaa
balali'aa deeman.

...

And as the sun rose, he flew away
singing into the morning light.



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