






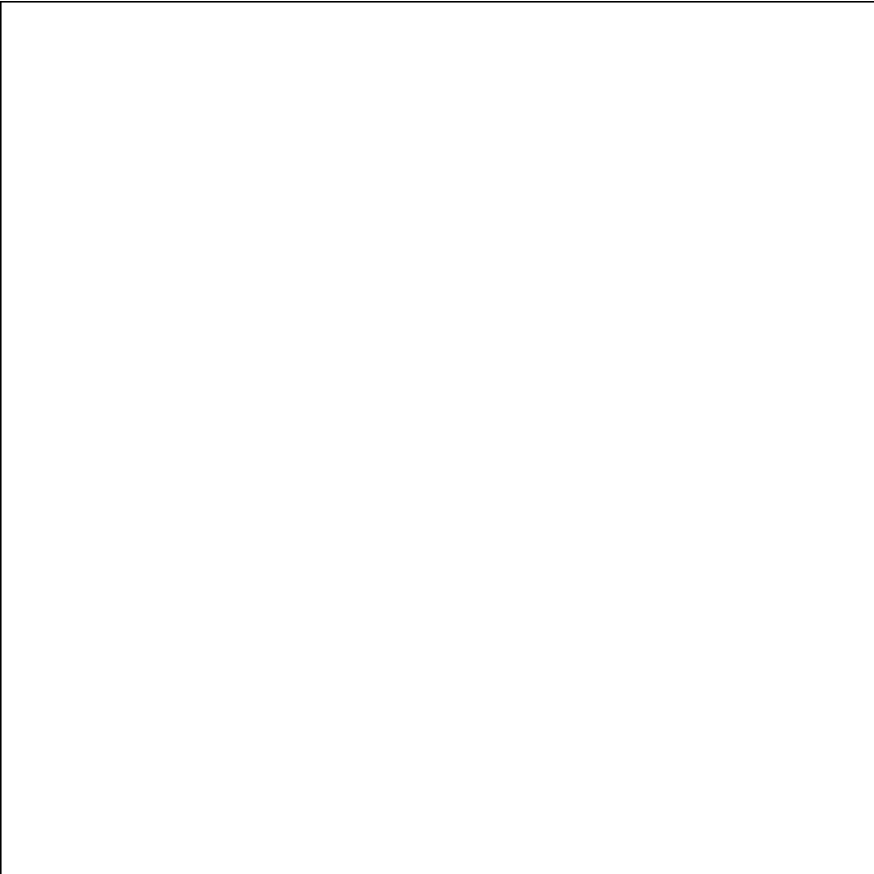
Halayi mukkenti hasoofti

Khalai talks to plants

-  Ursula Nafula
-  Jesse Pietersen
-  Demoze Degefa
-  Oromo / English
-  Level 2

(imageless edition)

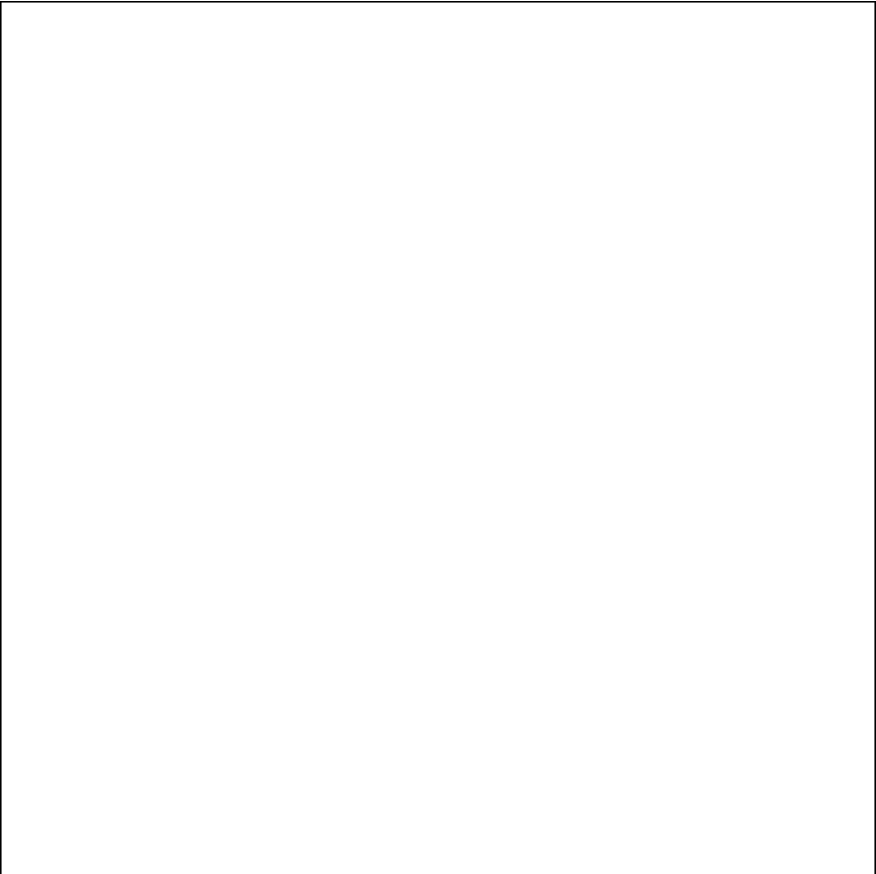




Isheen kuni Halayi dha. Umriin ishee wagga torba. Hikkan maqaa ishee' nama gameti' jechuudah afaan isheetin, Lubukusu dhan.

...

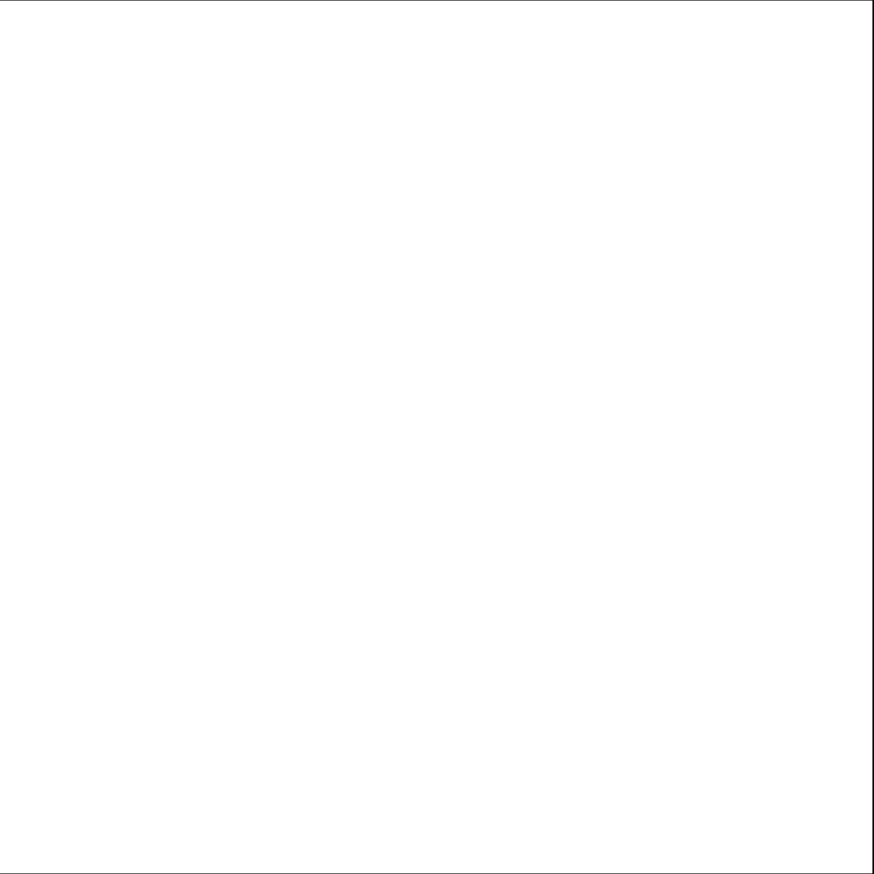
This is Khalai. She is seven years old. Her name means 'the good one' in her language, Lubukusu.



Halayi hirbaa kaate burtukaanati dubbati. “Mukaa burtukanaa adaraa kee dafii gudadhuu ijaa mi’aawa nukenni.”

...

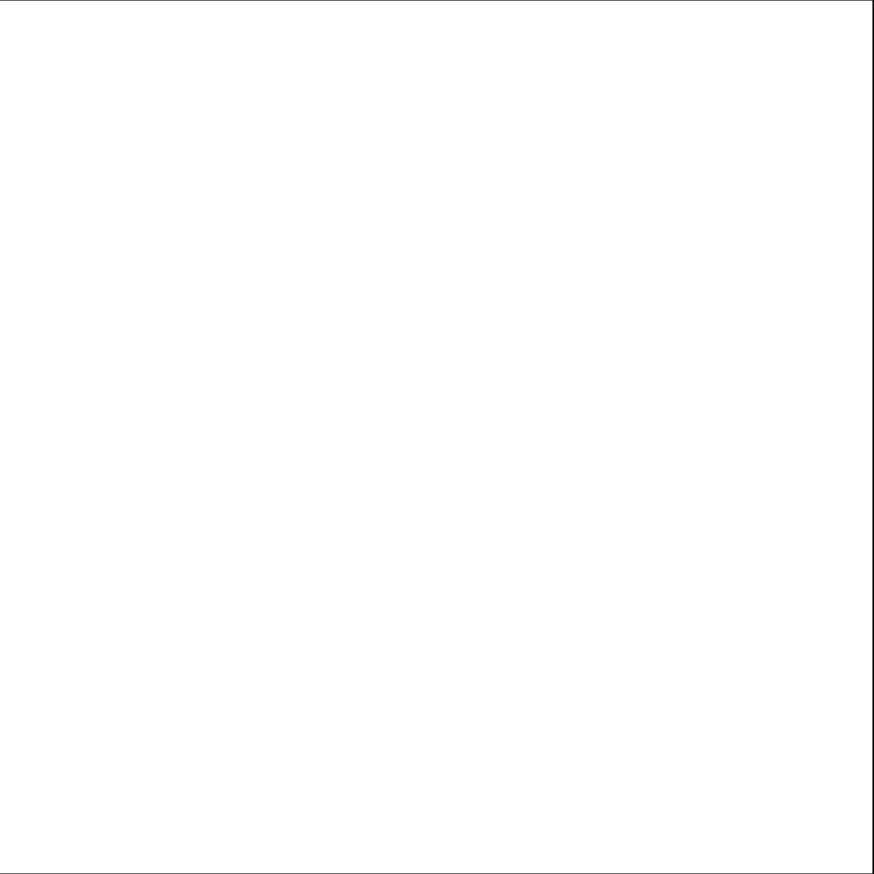
Khalai wakes up and talks to the orange tree. “Please orange tree, grow big and give us lots of ripe oranges.”



Halayin gara mana barnoota  
nideemiti. otuma deemitu  
margaatti akkan jette dubbate,  
“Adara margan dafii gudadhuu oto  
hingogin turi.”

...

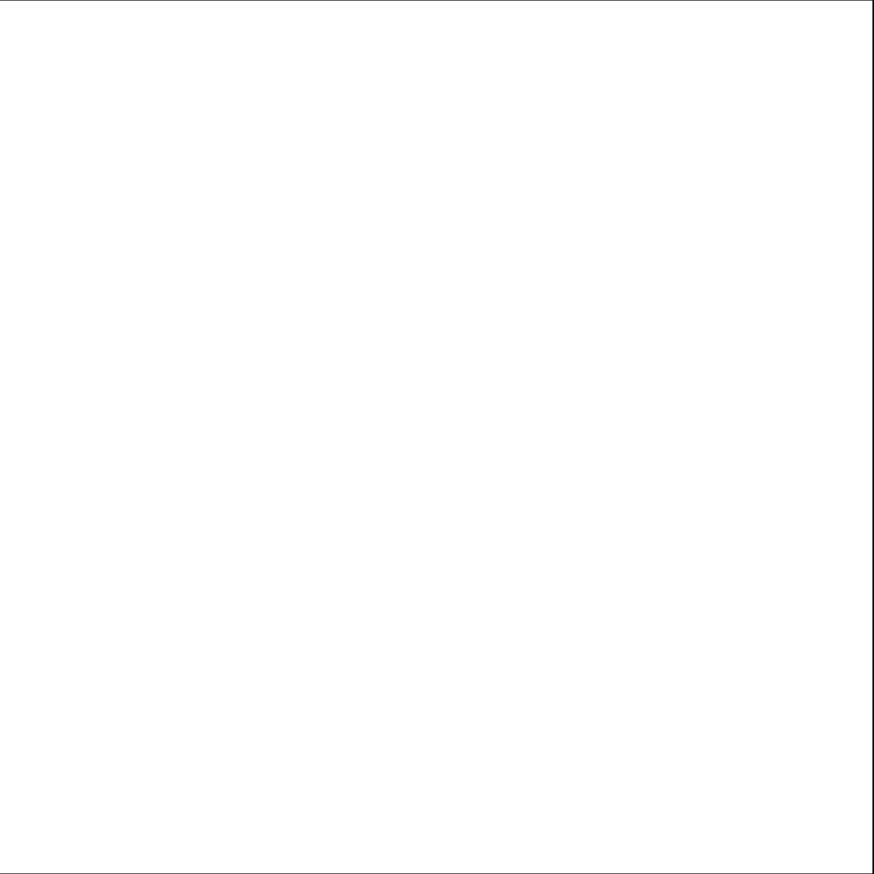
Khalai walks to school. On the way  
she talks to the grass. “Please  
grass, grow greener and don’t dry  
up.”



Halayin hababoo didaa bira dabarte. “Adara hababowaan bayee darara akkan mataa ko gubbaa isin ka’au.”

...

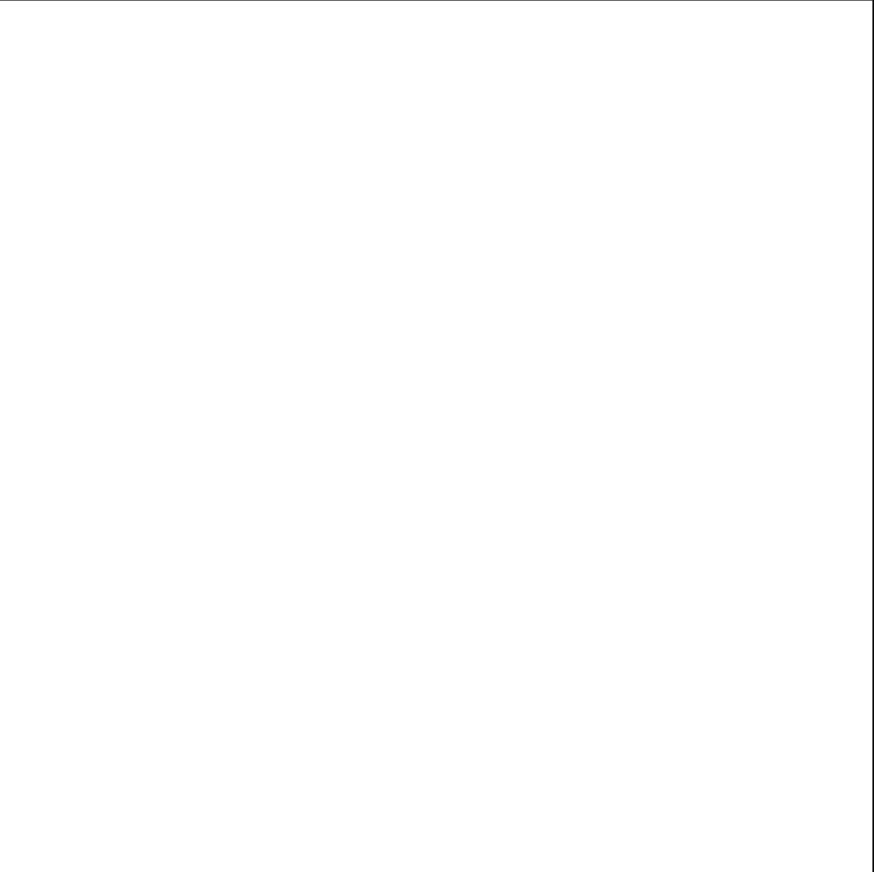
Khalai passes wild flowers. “Please flowers, keep blooming so I can put you in my hair.”



Mana barnoota kessati, Halayin mukkenti dubbati. “Adara kessan dafaati damee guddaa basaa akkaa isin jala tenyee dubifnu.”

...

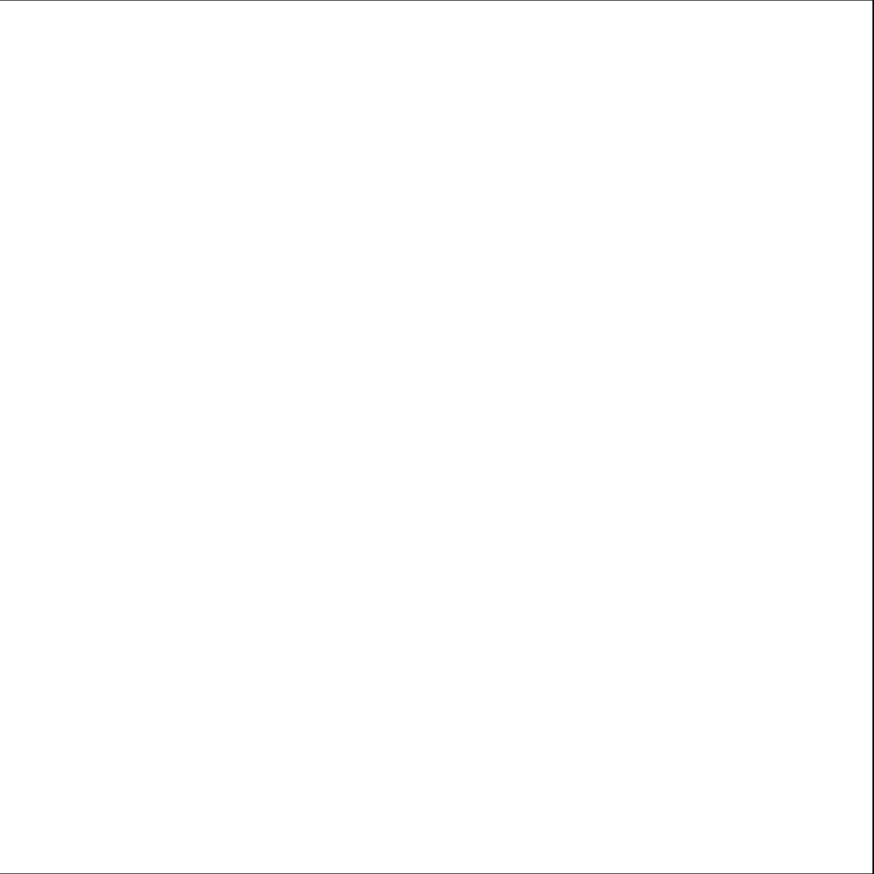
At school, Khalai talks to the tree in the middle of the compound.  
“Please tree, put out big branches so we can read under your shade.”



Halayi mukken balbala gubbatin  
jiranti dubbatee. “Adara dafa  
gudadhati namoota ala dhufan  
nurra qabaa.”

...

Khalai talks to the hedge around  
her school. “Please grow strong  
and stop bad people from coming  
in.”



Yeroo Halayi gara mana deebitu,  
mukaa burtukaana ilalti. “Firrin kee  
hinbilchane?” jette gafati.

...

When Khalai returns home from  
school, she visits the orange tree.  
“Are your oranges ripe yet?” asks  
Khalai.



Burtukanni kun hinbilchane, jette Halayin. "Muka burtukana bor walarginaa" jette Halayin. "Akka tasa firii bilchate nafkennita ta'a!"

...

"The oranges are still green," sighs Khalai. "I will see you tomorrow orange tree," says Khalai. "Perhaps then you will have a ripe orange for me!"



# Storybooks Canada

[storybookscanada.ca](http://storybookscanada.ca)

Halayi mukkenti hasoofti

Khalai talks to plants

Written by: Ursula Nafula

Illustrated by: Jesse Pietersen

Translated by: (om) Demoze Degefa

This story originates from the African Storybook ([africanstorybook.org](http://africanstorybook.org)) and is brought to you by [Storybooks Canada](http://Storybooks Canada) in an effort to provide children's stories in Canada's many languages.



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons  
[Attribution 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/).