



The Big Yucca Plant

By Adapted Niphasone Souphom

Characters

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| 1. Farmer | 5. Oldest Daughter | 9. Dog |
| 2. Farmer wife | 6. Youngest Son | 10. Buffalo |
| 3. Youngest daughter | 7. Oldest Son | 11. Mouse |
| 4. Narrator 1 | 8. Narrator 2 | 12. Narrator 3 |

Once there was a farmer who lived in a village far away. He lived there with his wife, two daughters, two sons, a dog, and a buffalo. The farmer planted rice and vegetables. This year, he decided to plant some yucca for his wife to make the delicious ka nom mun toln.

Narrator 1: gala kung nounge nan ma lail me saosoon saona poo nounge you gup kob kore kong lao. Me mair, me look saosong korn, me look sai song kon, me ma toe nuong, and me kuoi tork toe nong tea soy lur ngan gan you na you sorn. Pi nee, saona poo nee pook mun toln pur high mear owl pie hiet ka nom mun toln.

As he planted he can smell the sweetness of ka nom nun toln and taste it. Every day, the farmer watered the plant and weeded around the plant. Soon the yucca plant grew and grew. Finally it was time to harvest the yucca plant. The farmer carefully dug around the plant to loosen the soil and started to tug and pull, but nothing happened. He dug some more and tug some more until he was out of breath. Along came his wife.

Narrator 2: Lao hote num, lok ya, lae do lair mun toln pen pee said. Fun hen ka nom mun toln took muea. Mun toln gaw terb toe took muea, too won joln hot way la lok mun toln pie kin. Sao na koot mun toln lae gaw doung. Tai duong taw die gaw baw awk. Sao na gaw koot eek lae doung eek, tair mun toln gaw baw awk joln saona muoir. Paw dee mear saona pan ma.

Wife: What are you doing old man?

Wife: Jao gum lung het young you, towel euy?

Farmer: I am trying to pull out this yucca plant, but it won't budge.

Farmer: Koy gum lung koot lae duong mun toln tair mun baw awk. Het nail die gaw baw awk.

Wife: Let me try

Wife: Ma, high koy long buong do

Farmer: Okay, go right ahead

Farmer: Owl gaw owl

The wife rolled up her sleeves and her skirt. She took the hoe and dug some more around the yucca. Then, she began to pull and pull, but the yucca won't budge. She did not give up because she wanted some ka nom mun toln too. She pulled until she was out of breath. Along came their youngest daughter.

Narrator 3: Mear kong sao na jon sin jon kan suer lail gaw duong mun toln, duong taw die gaw baw awk. Lao go koot lail duong, lail koot tair het nail die mun toln gaw baw awk joln mear sao na muor. Look sao la pan ma paw dee hen paw gup mai nung sowl muor you.

Youngest daughter: What are you two doing?

Youngest daughter: Paw gup mair gum lung het young?

Wife: We are trying to pull out this yucca plant to make some ka nom mun toln.

Wife: Paw gup mair gum lung paya yarm lolk mun toln you, tair lolk nail die gaw baw awk

Youngest daughter: Let me try. I am much younger and stronger than the both of you.

Youngest daughter: high look soy doung der. Look kong ja me hang lie gaw paw lair mair

Wife: Okay, go right ahead

Wife: owl gaw owl

The daughter rolled up her sleeve and skirt and began to pull with all her might, but the yucca plant will not budge. She did not give up because she too wanted some ka nom mun toln. She pulled until she was out of breath. Along came the older daughter

Narrator 1 : Look sao la gaw jon suer jon sin lair gaw doung tair doung nail die gaw doung baw koon. Doung num lai kit thourng ka nom mun toln pie num. tung koot tung doung joln mouir. Look sao poo yi pan ma paw dee.

Oldest daughter: What are you doing?

Oldest daughter: gum lung het young you

Youngest daughter: We are trying to pull out this yucca plant to make some ka nom mun toln.

Youngest daughter: gum lung koot lair dOUNg mun toln, tair dOUNg nail die kaw baw awk.

Oldest daughter: Let me try. I am much stronger than you little sister.

Oldest daughter: ma, euy ja soy ang

Youngest daughter: Okay, go right ahead.

Youngest daughter: owl gaw owl

The oldest daughter rolled up her sleeves and her skirt and started to pull the yucca plant, but it won't budge. She pulled and pulled and did not give up because she too wanted some ka nom mun toln. She pulled until she was out of breath. Along came the youngest son

Narrator 2: Look sao poo yai joln suer joln sin lai gaw koot lai dOUNg mun toln. DOUNg taw die gaw baw awk. Look sao poo yai paya yarm yoln soot kwam sa maat tair gaw dOUNg mun toln awk baw die. Nong sai pan ma paw dee.

Youngest son: What are you doing?

Youngest son: gum lung het young you

Oldest daughter: We are trying to pull this yucca out of the ground so mother can make some ka nom toln

Oldest daughter: gum lung koot lair dOUNg mun toln, tair dOUNg nail die kaw baw awk.

Youngest son: Move over and Let me try. I am by far stronger than you two girls.

Youngest son: ma, high nong soy baw? Nong kong ja me hang lai gua euy tung song korn.

Oldest daughter: Go right ahead

Oldest daughter: owl gaw owl

The youngest son rolled up his sleeves and started to pull and pull but the yucca would not budge. He pulled and pulled and did not give up because he wanted some ka nom mun toln. He pulled until he was out of breath. Along came the eldest son.

Narrator 3: Look sigh noi sao na joln suer kern lai gaw dOUNg mun toln. DOUNg taw die gaw baw awk. Look sigh noi paya yarm yoln soot kwam sa maat tair gaw dOUNg mun toln awk baw die. Ai Yai pan ma paw dee.

Eldest son: What are you doing?

Eldest son: gum lung het young you?

Youngest son: We are trying to pull this yucca out of the ground so mother can make some ka nom toln.

Youngest son: gum lung koot lair dOUNg mun toln, tair dOUNg nail die kaw baw awk.

Eldest son: Move over and let me try. I am by far bigger and stronger than you.

Eldest son: ma, high ai soy baw? Ai kong ja me hang lai gua nong took took korn.

Youngest son: Go right ahead

Youngest son: owl gaw owl

The Eldest son started to pull and pull but the yucca plant would not budge. He pulled and pulled and did not give up because he wanted some ka nom mun toln. He pulled until he was out of breath. Along came the dog who guards the house. He wandered over and looked at his human family.

Narrator 1: Look sai yai kong sao na joln suer kern lair gaw dOUNg mun toln. DOUNg taw die gaw baw awk. Look sigh yai paya yarm yoln soot kwam sa maat tair gaw dOUNg mun toln awk baw die. Ma tea fowl ban pan ma paw dee.

Curious, he asked, "What are you doing?"

Dog: gum lung het young you?

Oldest Son: We are trying to pull this yucca plant out of the ground so mother can make some ka nom mun toln.

Oldest Son: gum lung koot lair dOUNg mun toln, tair dOUNg nail die kaw baw awk.

Dog: You are doing it all wrong. You are not holding the plant tight enough. Let me try.

Dog: Pork Jao koot lair dOUNg baw thuuk. Jao thong jup mun toln nan nan. Ma, high koi long bung.

Eldest son: Go ahead, if you can pull it out, we will share some of the ka nom toln with you.

Eldest son: Suern tharm sabye. Ta jao dOUNg mun toln awk ma die, pork how ja bang ka nom mun toln high jao gin

The dog bent down, bit on the stem of the yucca and pulled as hard as he could, but it would not budge. He pulled and pulled until he ran out of energy. Along came the family water buffalo, by far the strongest member of the family.

Narrator 2: Ma gome long lair gaw karp garn mun toln. Karp lair gaw duong soot hang kong mun. Doung taw die gaw baw awk. Ma paya yarm yoln soot kwam sa maat tair gaw doung mun toln awk baw die. Bung ern kwore terk pan ma.

The dog asked, "Oh great and strong water buffalo, would you not help the family pull this yucca plant out of the ground?"

Dog: Jao kwore terk poo kang hang euy, ma soy ma not tea pen korp kua how dair, ma soy pork kow joa duong mun toln dair?

Buffalo, "Sure, I can help"

Buffalo: Soy gaw soy

The water buffalo pulled and pulled, but the yucca plant would not budge. The family was about to give up until a little mouse ran by seeing the whole family sitting on the ground all in gloom until a little mouse ran by.

Narrator 3: Kwore terk doung mun toln joln soot kwarm sa maat thair doung taw die gaw doung baw awk. Took took koln pa gun nung kid wa ja het nail die dee. Pork kow jao mut kwarm sa maat tea ja doung mun toln awk joln nou toe noy toe noung lan pan ma.

Mouse: What is the matter, why are you all so sad?

Mouse: **Pork joa pen young gun koo ma sout tair?**

Farmer: We can't pull this yucca plant out of the ground. I tried, my wife, each of my daughters, each of my sons, the dog, and even the biggest and strongest water buffalo cannot pull it out. I guess we will never get to taste the sweet ka nom mun toln.

Farmer: Pork how pa gun doung mun toln baw awk. Poo die doung gaw baw awk. Kanad kwore terk gaw young doung baw awk. Ta dung baw awk gaw olt baw die gin ka nom toln.

Mouse: If I help, will you share some with me?

Mouse: Ta how soy pork jao, jao ja bang ka nom mun toln high how die baw?

Farmer: What can you, the tinniest of animal do? You are not big nor strong.

Farmer: Jao toe noi noi, ja soy pork koi die nail die. Toe noi noi, berng kong see baw me hang.

Mouse: If you promise to share the ka nom mun toln, I promise to get the yucca out.

Mouse: Ta jao sunya wa ja bang ka nom num toln kup how, how sunya wa ja owl mun toln awk ma high die.

Farmer: I agree

Farmer: Toke long

Mouse: Now, I need all of you to stand up, dog you grab hold of the yucca, girls you grab the dog, boys you grab the girls, follow by the farmer's wife, famer, and buffalo. Are you all ready and are you all holding on tight?

Mouse: Ta pork jao yark high mun toln awk, jao tolng soy gun dounge. Ma, jao pie karp toln mun toln lair took koln gaw pa gun dounge palm gun. Palm lair bao. Jup gun nan nan der.

Everyone: Yes

Everyone: palm lair

Mouse: In the count of three, we will pull together, one, two, three

Mouse: How ja nup terng sarm lair pork jao thong dounge palm gun der. Nung, song, sarm.

Narrator: Everyone pulled. On the first tug, they heard a crack, on the second tug, they felt the yucca move, and on the third tug, the yucca came lose and the whole family fell over. The all cheered and helped drag the yucca to the kitchen. Later that night, they shared the sweetest ka nom mun toln and learned an important lesson about team work.

Narrator: Took koln pa gun dounge palm gun. Noi nounge gaw paw gun die gin sieng tack. Taw ma ga hen mun toln koi koi loot awk ma. Took koln dounge joln paw gun lome long. Mun toln hua yai tall koln loot awk ma lair took took koln gaw pa gun hoe dor kwarm dee jai. Took koln pa gun lark mun toln pie huean sao na lair pa gun soy mair sao na het ka nom nun toln. Nigh kum koon nun pork kow jao gaw die pa gun gin ka nom mun toln tea saap tea soot nigh loke. Ni tan lounge nee son high who jark soy gun.