

Stories !Kung 1955

(typed)

2018.9.1.22.8

Typed

f.22.8

✓ for word



Foma the first day we were together said he had a story to tell me about lions at Kai Kai. Dan Blity is monitoring a recording of the story. Fedino is interpreting.

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Three lions came and slept near Kai Kai village when they were there. Gao and went and saw the lion spoor. They wondered if the lions went far or were still near the village. After the sun set the lions came. Foma's skinn were near the Herero's skinn. Here is one Herero named Gama. One lion went on one side, one on the other.

People were sleeping. The lions went to a village where they found some donkeys. A lion scratched me from the side down the leg. The donkey ran away. The lions found another donkey and killed it and ate it. Early in the morning when they were eating the donkey they had killed they saw another donkey passing and they ran after it and killed it too. They did not eat this one but killed it and left it lying. They went and stayed all day in a forest. In the morning people got up and saw the scratches on the donkey. They tracked the lion's spoor and found the two dead donkeys. People planned them to



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put poison in the meat and traps. They put a brush fence around the carcasses of the donkeys.

Immediately after sunset the lion returned to eat their donkeys. They went into the fence. They then ate bits of the poisoned meat and then the male lion was caught in the trap, and presently the female lion was also caught.

While people were still waiting they heard the sound of the lions roaring. The lions pulled the traps trying to get loose. People listened and heard the roaring. They did not go there, they just listened, hearing the roaring all the night.

The third one that was not caught roared all night (Tom illustrates the roaring) All night people listened. It was not far from the village. Some people who lived near the place were very worried. They went into their houses and tied their doors shut. Tom roars again and laughs. He says the lions would get tired and stop struggling then they would begin again (as he demonstrates) The man in the house shouted all night to keep them off.



The lions tried to pull the traps into the thick bushes to get away from people. They struggled more and more as dawn came as the night was clearing and roared more. The female lion struggled free of the trap. But she had already eaten poisoned meat. She did not go far. She went only a short distance and slept there. The male lion was caught with a very good trap and did not get loose. The lion that was free - that we had caught at all, went away as the night was clearing. He was very big with huge front paws. The male lion pulled the trap as far as he could.

The Hereros sent a man on horse back to a place where there were many dogs. <sup>to bring some of them</sup> ~~to bring some of them~~ <sup>to bring some of them</sup> ~~to bring some of them~~ people that lions being caught in traps were very dangerous and that people must not go near. They <sup>He</sup> said some of the Hereros were not brave enough. and <sup>and beside their rifles were not up to it.</sup> ~~they~~ said the <sup>Hereros</sup> ~~people~~ must stay very far away. ~~Some~~ <sup>Some</sup> said the Hereros were not brave and when they got frightened they lost their sense and might throw some one near to them to the lions and run away.

We went (#Toma said) taking the dogs to follow the lion. The dogs got scared of the lion and were frightened. #Toma said that the dogs were no good for this. They would



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run toward people and lead the lions  
right to the people.

They had only one old rifle and 3 cartridges  
#Toma says "I told my people, the Bushmen  
with me, that the Herero rifle was not good  
and the dogs were not good. The Bushmen  
must stay far back. What I said was  
true. As soon as the dogs scented the  
lions they ran right toward the people  
and passed them. Only one dog was  
a good one. He went to the lion and  
barked. When the Herero with the rifle  
ran toward it, he wanted to go alone  
but others asked him not to go alone  
with no rifle. He agreed and waited  
and they all went at me. The dog  
bit at the lion. The lion roared and  
tried to catch the dog. The dog ran away."

#Toma says "We came very close to it. It  
stood up shaking its tail. I told the  
Bushman to stand away from it and  
from the Hereros." The dog kept barking  
at the lion.

"Just as I was saying to people  
to be careful" #Toma says the lion jumped  
toward us. We scattered and ran.  
As I said, the Hereros ran right  
after us. The lion shook the trap."  
#Toma is most dramatic here)



and I saw him coming with his big eyes and big beard. I called to the Bushmen to get away from the Hereros and run aside. "When one man shot the lion the bullet only grazed the lion's shoulder. # Toma knew then he said, that the lion would be very angry. As the trap was heavy he could not follow far. The people ran on a little further. # Toma turned and saw the big teeth of the lion. It was a very big lion. "The stopper he said and came a little nearer. The Bushmen wanted to shoot with their arrows. I said yes, it was a good chance." The lion pulled itself very little and got ready. # Toma knew it would jump and told people to look out. The Hereros with the rifle tried to shoot. The gun did not go off. # Toma said he knew this was a bad time and said to look out. People said that # Toma was afraid. It was cold and # Toma had not brought his arrows. When people saw he was afraid he said to them he had no arrows and people should do what they thought best. The rifle did not go off. The lion went into thick bushes. The dog kept barking at it. # Toma had the red coat



# Tona's lion story

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on that I had given him. The Hereros  
spit in the cat's eye and tried again. This  
time it burst but did not hurt the lion.  
Then the lion jumped and ran after them.  
Every one ran. # Tona shouted and  
insulted the Bushmen telling them to  
run away from the Hereros who were  
strong and might throw them down  
for the lion to eat.

The dog kept on biting the lion.  
People said they must go back and  
get more cartridges and then go  
back. People did not want  
to because, they said, they were  
tired from running.

The lion hid in the bushes. I looked  
and saw it hiding. <sup>Said # Tona</sup> Because people  
said I was afraid of the lion I kept  
quiet and said (to myself) people  
should be on their own look out."

People came near and saw the lion.  
I goshay who married my sister shot an  
arrow which grazed the lion's ear.  
// Tu Ka was just ready to shoot  
again when the lion came for them.  
# Tona clapped his hands and cried  
out and shows how the lion scratches  
the side of the man. It is talking too.  
the side of someone.



so is old + gas.

"The dog that kept the lion from us was hurt. The lion scratched it very badly. It had gone to lie down." + Tom went on. He shouts now and covers his eyes acting it out. Here followed a long animated account

"The lion chased us. We ran very fast. One man named + Tom went through a very thick bush and scratched his face badly. One who came late was running but almost got caught. He seized a branch of a tree and climbed up. The lion stopped. One Herero shot a shoe but he did not care. He ran on with only one shoe. Another broke a big branch of a tree with his chest - but he did not care. One lost his hat but he ran on. People found these things and took them to the Hereros. One Herero said we have been fighting the lion all morning. He said it was about to kill someone and all should go home. The women came but + Tom told them to go home. One woman called Shage met the lioness beside the road. <sup>the one that had eaten poison</sup> While it was still preparing itself to jump on her she ran home. We all of us went home said + Tom. Shage said she had seen the lioness. Others said the lioness was useless as it had eaten poison. They said they could kill it with sticks. The Herero



Ladies went to see how he killed a lion  
 \* Toma said he did not want to go, but his  
 2 children were going so he decided to go.  
 He ran after people and he told them  
 that a lion that had eaten prison  
 was more angry than a normal lion.  
 He told his children to go home and he  
 alone went with the Hereros. The Hereros  
 wanted a Bushman woman to go in  
 where the lion was to show the other  
 when it was. \* Toma refused to  
 allow this and told the woman to go  
 home. \* Toma found the Herero  
 ladies climbing on a tree. He told  
 them not to do this because, he  
 said, their men were useless and  
 they had no rifle. The Herero  
 women listened and climbed down.  
 \* Toma said he was not going with  
 the grass with out a dog to show him  
 where the lions were. Here they were  
 with my sticks. "Perhaps," said \* Toma  
 "they had some medicines to put on  
 their sticks."

They sent a man to Kuli & told  
 venters sons to come. They asked him to  
 run as fast as he could on horse  
 back to bring the man. The man went

\* Redimo's word.



F. Toma's lion skin

Aug 11, 1955 9

and that night returned with Goho.  
The other man who had shot the lion the  
day before said people were not brave enough,  
and that was why he did not shoot the  
lion nicely. F. Toma said he told the people  
there were 3 lions, two caught in traps and  
the 3<sup>rd</sup> one free. "People said I had not  
seen them," F. Toma said, "that there were only 2."

The Hereros wanted F. Toma to go again  
but he said he would not. Things had not  
gone well the day before. He refused to go  
Some one said that the lion had  
eaten poison and would be useless.

The people went. They found that  
the lioness had joined the lion and both  
were there. Goho had brought his dogs  
who were used to lions. They went in  
and found the lions. When the dogs  
went to the lion that was caught in  
the trap it roared and roared and the  
other lion came up behind people.  
The Bushmen ran away. Goho asked the  
Hereros not to run but to be brave.  
Old Gambero did not pay attention  
to Goho's words. He ran away. F. Toma  
wonders why he did - as he was the oldest.  
The Herero who had missed the day before  
this time shot very nicely, right in the mouth.  
Looking behind he saw the lioness and shot her  
too. Goho told them that the lions were



sick and weak now from the prison.

The Bushmen had run away all together and had gone home. The Hereros shouted for the Bushmen to come to see the lions. Some who had not reached home, came back. One was named F Toma came and some no saw him shutting his eye. People said it was the eye of the lion and ran away. Others said no that was not the lion - so they came back.

By now the lions were dead. Peter came and told F Toma.

The skins were wasted by the poison so the lions were not skinned.

F Toma went to see the Hereros and they discussed the lions. It was the my Bushmen present. F Toma told the Hereros that there was a 3<sup>rd</sup> lion. The Hereros did not believe him, they came another Bushman named Geo who assisted F Toma and confirmed him saying also there were 3 lions. F Toma warned the Hereros to put their horses and donkeys into kraals.

That night the lion came and killed a horse. It was Kambe pepai's horse. The best horse he had. In the morning when the



horses came in water. This horse was missing. People followed the spoor and found the horse dead. People came and said F. Tome was right. The other lion was alive. F. Tome said "When I was with Mr. Marshall he believed me when I told him something but the Hereros do not believe me." And I told them to put more poison in the meat that the lion should die there because they were not good at killing lions. They did this. They poisoned the meat and put a trap <sup>and built a fence</sup>. The lion came and found the <sup>main entrance</sup> fence, <sup>the trap</sup> and did not go in. It went back into the bushes. People came and saw this. They left it and went away. Another night it came and ate the meat. After this it went only a few yards and slept there and there it died.

"Next morning the Hereros asked me to go to see the lion", said F. Tome, "but I would not go. I said though B' pero was an old man he should believe me when I tell him something." People went and found the spoor and found a huge lion lying there dead. People believed Mr. Men, that I had seen the three spoor. "I told the Hereros that they should listen to what Bushmen tell them. Bushmen know things."



Lawrence said yes. they should listen. FToma added that they could not argue. They said then that they should believe Bushmen. The Bushmen do know things. Lawrence asked when this happened. Just recently FToma said. The last time he was at Kai Kai. The Bushmen are very thick FToma says. It is hard to see lions in them. He adds that the lions live in the hills between Kai Kai and Keeli.

FToma adds when people hunt a lion they go with death. An old man like Mrs. Marshall who can not run fast should not hunt lions. FToma who can run fast can hunt them because he can run faster than the lions. There is an old man at Kai Kai named Karkru kuru me who knew he could not run fast enough and stayed at home. FToma even told the old Bushmen to stay at home.

FToma says he wanted John to be there to take a good picture of the lion charging and showing its teeth. He says it is interesting to watch a lion. but the result would be if you stay that it will kill you. Only a brave man can stay.

Who finally shot the lion? Kai na nde nde  
 Some people FT. say get blind when they run in great fear and hunt themselves. pulling away from the danger, not looking behind.  
 Kai Kuru me is a B. of Tcho gopedi (a Se tsवाना नाम)



Some people think of going into holes. Others think of climbing trees. But they do not have a chance to hide themselves.

A lion will leave the dogs if it is being fought by people and take after the people.

A lion is a fearful thing. One killed a man named #Gao:Na. long ago. #Toma was not here. That lion was not caught in a trap. People took dogs and followed it. It killed some cattle. The dogs ran after it & found it. People came & found the dogs biting the lion. One man stood on an ant hill. His name was Ja Ki. He shot at the lion, but the bullet passed it. One Bushman named #Toma shot it with an arrow. <sup>The arrow hit the lion in the chest.</sup> While the dogs were biting him the lion lay down. #Gao came with a bow & arrow toward the lion and #Gao asked people to be brave, all together. and #Gao came near the lion. The dogs were around the lion. The lion was lying looking at him. He shot his arrow. The arrow came between the lion's ears and fell on the ground behind. The lion was lying on its stomach & was ready to jump. As the arrow passed it head it jumped. All the Hereros ran away. The lion came with a roar after them and chased the dogs and then the people. He came among them and the people scattered in all directions. #Gao was the last. and the lion caught him by the lion puts grease in his ears & on his abdomen - in none



two tails of the breech cloth. And the <sup>lion</sup> ran  
 on the ant hill and Gao ran around  
 it. The lion jumped straight on air.  
 Gao put his hand in the lion's  
 mouth. His hand was mangled + broken.  
 Fortunately the lion had been shot  
 in its lungs. The dogs returned and  
 started biting the lion again. The lion  
 turned to fight the dogs, and left

~~Gao~~ the man crawled away leaving and  
<sup>sat with</sup> a trail of excretion behind him. People  
 told him he did not do well because  
 he went to the lion alone. He should  
 have waited for people to go all  
 together. They were all afraid then  
 to go and they left the lion and  
 went home.

They slept at home and next  
 morning followed the lion's spoor. They  
 found it dead killed by the poison  
 arrow.

Gao is the man we saw at  
 Kar Kai with the mangled hand.

825 Lawrence says + Toma told us the  
 Bushmen lived at peace with the lions  
 and surrounded him of the house at  
 Gantscha. Toma says the lions around  
 here do not harm people. No one harms the



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But where from kill cattle and men shoot  
at them the lions are dangerous. When lions  
are not hunted they are not dangerous.

Does F. Toma remember the big snake  
at Gutscha<sup>2</sup>, L. asks? F. says he asked  
F. Toma if they should look in the other  
hills & F. Toma said, very well L. thought,  
No - they live in peace with the snake.



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(changed)



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