



**Anansi Ton
Wahn Oal Man**

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In the Kriol writing system each letter represents just one sound. There are no silent letters. Following is a brief guide to reading some of the more unfamiliar symbols:

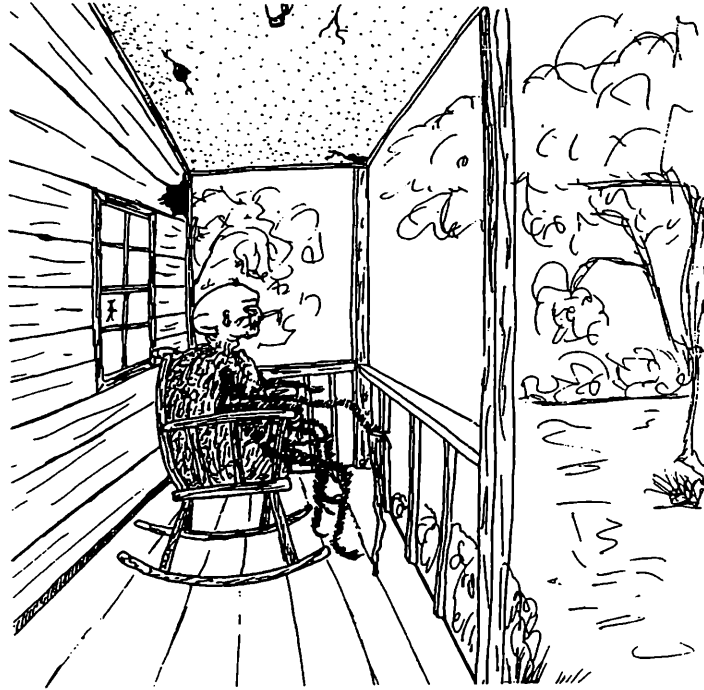
- 'long a' = 'ay' as in 'wayt' (wait)
- 'long i' = 'ai' as in 'bwai' (boy)
- 'long e' = 'ee' as in 'teech' (teach)
- 'long o' = 'oa' as in 'bloa' (blow)
- 'long u' = 'oo' as in 'hoo' (who)
- 'double short a' = 'aa' as in 'yaad' (yard)
- 'nasalization' – 'hn' nasalizes the vowel as in 'kohn' (come)
- 'tr' – 'chr' as in 'chrai' (try)



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**Dis da wahn taim wen taim da-mi taim.
Anansi ton oal.**

**Unu neva noa Bra Anansi mi wahn get oal wan
day? Wel, ih get oal now.**

Ih oal an ben op.

Ih bak homp.

**Ih ga gray hyaa an ih di waak wid wahn pees a
stik. Si ahn deh?**

**O, an ih haaf blain tu, yu noa. Sohnbadi eevn
hafu di hoal ih han fi leed ahn.**

This was one time when time was time. Anancy became old. Did you not know that Brother Anancy would get old one day? Well, he has gotten old now. He's old and bent up. His back is humped. He has gray hair and walks with a walking stick. See him there?

Oh yes, and he's half blind too, you know. Someone even has to hold his hand and lead him.



Soh wahn day ih oalis son weh nayhn Hatakuma seh, "Pa, yu di get oal an yu stil noh laan mi fi hont yet. Ker mi tideh, noh?"

Anansi seh, "Aarait, bot yu wahn hafu hoal mi han an ker mi. If yu si sohnting, tel mi how ih luk an Ah wahn tel yu da wat."

Soh dehn pik op dehn hontin beg an too a dehn gaan.

One day his oldest son, Hatakuma, said to him, "Dad, you're getting old and you still haven't taught me to hunt. How about taking me today?"

Anancy said, "All right, but you have to hold my hand and lead me. If you see something, tell me what it looks like and I will tell you what it is."

So they picked up their hunting bags and went off together.



**Wen dehn reech di bush, Hatakuma si sohnting.
Ih seh, "Ih ga too lang ayz an ih di jomp rong an
rong."**

**Anansi seh, "Dat da wahn rabbit. Ih gud fi eet.
Grab ahn an shub ahn eena yu beg."**

When they reached the bush, Hatakuma saw something.
He said, "It has two long ears and jumps around."
Anancy said, "That is a rabbit. It's good to eat. Grab it and
put it in your bag."



Dehn waak op wahn lee way moa. Hatakuma si wan neks wan.

Ih seh, "Dis wan ya hayri hayri. Ih blak an ih luk laik wahn lee pig."

Anansi seh, "Dat da Pikayri. Ih gud fi eet tu."

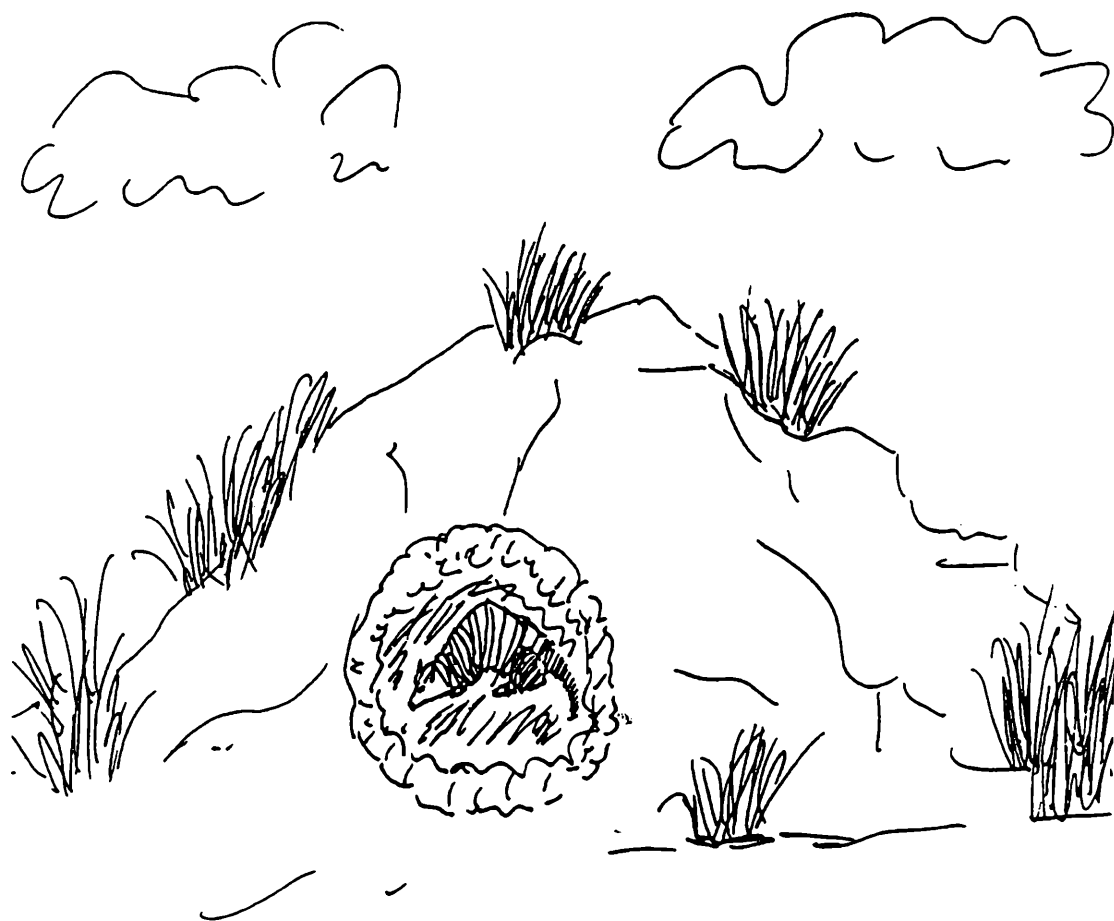
Hatakuma grab ahn an shub ahn eena ih beg.

They went a little further. Hatakuma saw another animal.

He said, "This one is very hairy and black and looks like a little pig."

Anancy said, "That's a peccary. It's good to eat, too."

Hatakuma grabbed it and put it into his bag.



**Den dehn reech wahn hoal an Hatakuma si
sohnting eena di hoal.**

**Ih seh, "Ih gat wahn shel oava ih bak, an ih roal
op ihself laik wahn baal."**

**Anansi seh, "Dat gud fi eet tu. Da Hamadili."
Hatakuma grab ahn an shub ahn eena ih beg.**

Then they got to a hole and Hatakuma saw something in it.
He said, "This one has a shell over its back and it rolls itself
into a ball."

Anancy said, "That is also good to eat. It's an armadillo.
Hatakuma grabbed it and put it into his bag.



Dehn gaan til dehn reech wahn riva.

Hatakuma seh, "Dis wan hav wahn shel tu, an ih di float eena di riva. Ih hed luk laik wahn snayk hed."

Ih pa seh, "Dat gud fi eet tu. Da Bokotoara."

Hatakuma grab ahn an shub ahn eena ih beg.

They went on until they got to a river.

Hatakuma said, "This one has a shell too, and it's floating in the river. Its head looks like a snake head."

His father said, "That's good to eat, too. It's a turtle."

Hatakuma grabbed it and put it into his bag.



Afta wahn wail dehn reech wahn big chree.

Hatakuma hyaa wahn naiz, soh ih luk op.

**Ih seh, "Hmm! Pa, da weh dis wan? Ih big an ih
ga wahn lang tayl. Ih luk laik wahn kyat, bot ih gat
wahn lat a spat pan ahn."**

After a while they reached a big tree.

Hatakuma heard a noise, so he looked up and said, "Hmmm, Dad, what is this one? It's big and has a long tail. It looks like a cat, but it has a lot of spots."



Anansi seh, "Bwai Hatakuma, hoal mi han. Mek wi tek fut now. Dat da Taiga. Insted a wee eet hihn, hihn wahn eet wee! Mek wi ron!"

Dehn ron an dehn ron an Taiga bihain dehn.

Bot wan a dehn step pahn wahn pin an di pin ben. If di pin neva ben, dis Anansi stoari wudda neva en.

Anancy said, "Hatakuma son, hold my hand. Let's get out of here! That's Tiger. Instead of our eating him, he will eat us! Let's run!"

They took off with Tiger behind them.

But one of them stepped on a pin and the pin bent. If the pin hadn't bent, this Anancy story would never have ended.