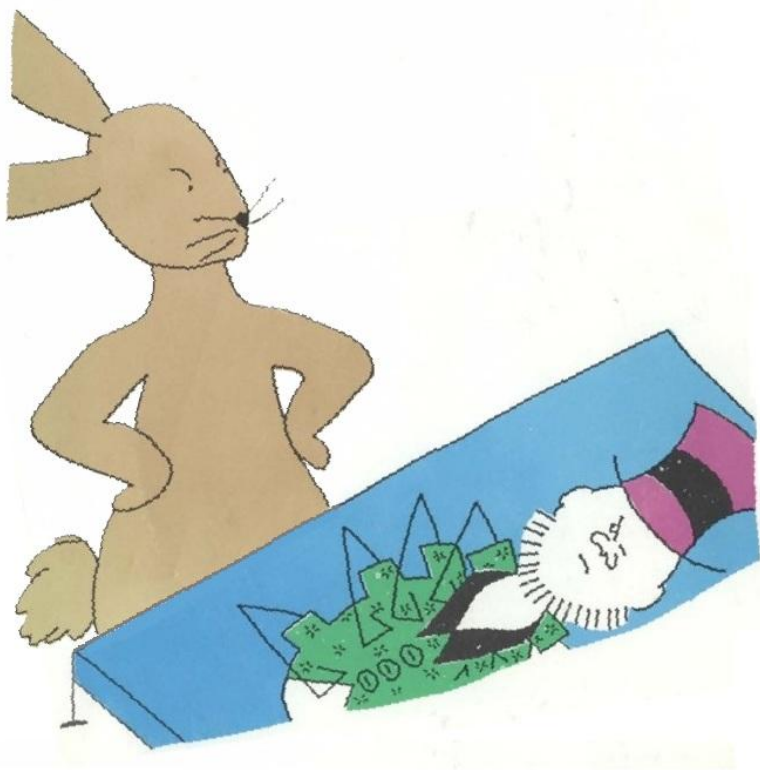


Rabit Play Chrik Pahn Hanaasi



Hanaasi, or Anancy, stories have a long tradition in Belize, as well as throughout the Caribbean. They originated in West Africa, and are still told among the Ashanti of Ghana. Hanaasi is always portrayed as a greedy trickster. A good story teller will always present Hanaasi as having a high-pitched, nasal voice and speaking with a lisp, *“Bwa Taiga mi fwen. Ah feel sho week. Pleez noh eet mi laik how Ah sho shik.”* This version of this traditional story was told by Adler Ramclaman and recorded by professor Ervin Beck of Goshen College, Goshen Indiana, USA. Professor Beck made an extensive collection of Hanaasi stories and other traditional Creole folktales in the mid-1970s, and has given us permission to reprint this story, with artwork by Liz Bennett added.

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Revised Edition

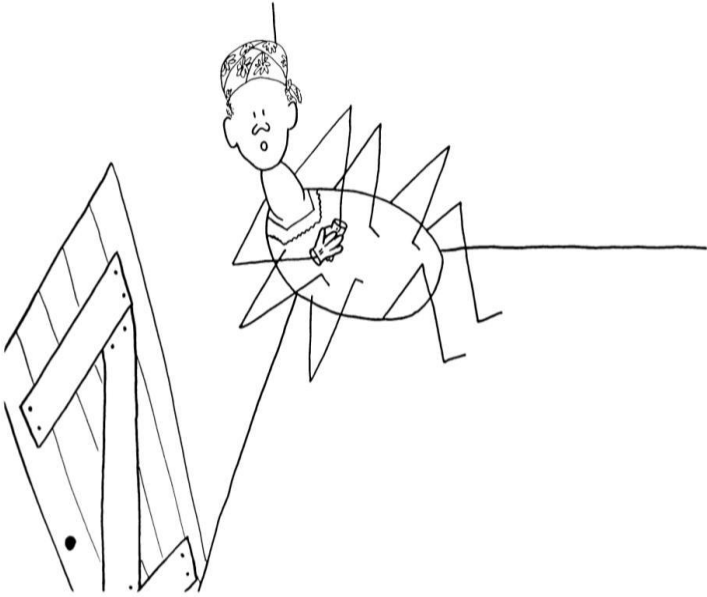
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The Kriol Language Committee
of the National Kriol Council



Wel, wan taim Hanaasi,
ih waif ahn aal ih pikni
dehn mi hongri bad. Ih
waif mi deh eena wahn
kaana di baal.

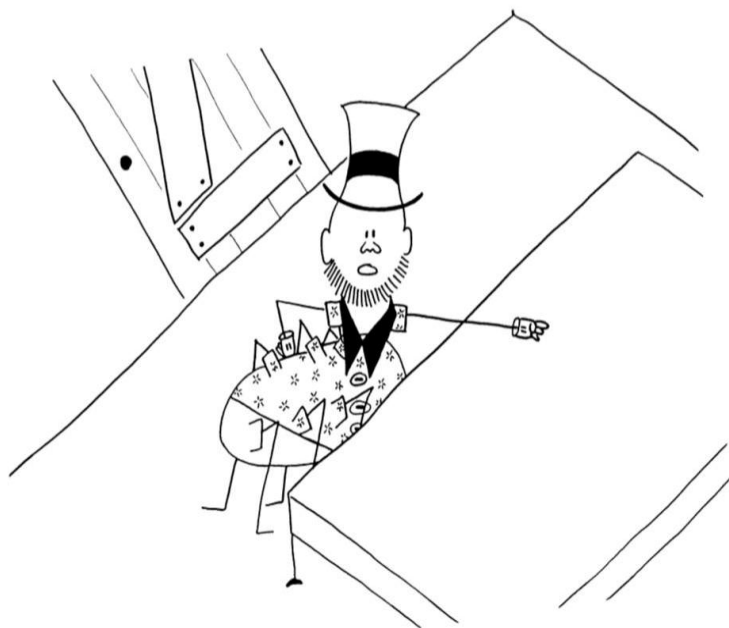


Ih dehdeh di rob ih beli
fi mek di hongrinis goh
weh.

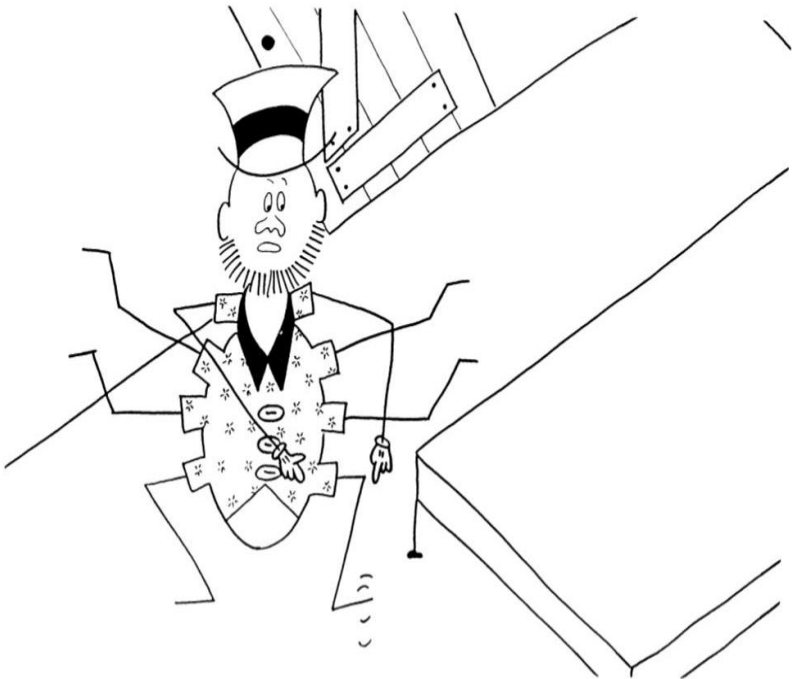


"Aiy!" Hanaasi seh, "Ah
noh noa weh fi du!"

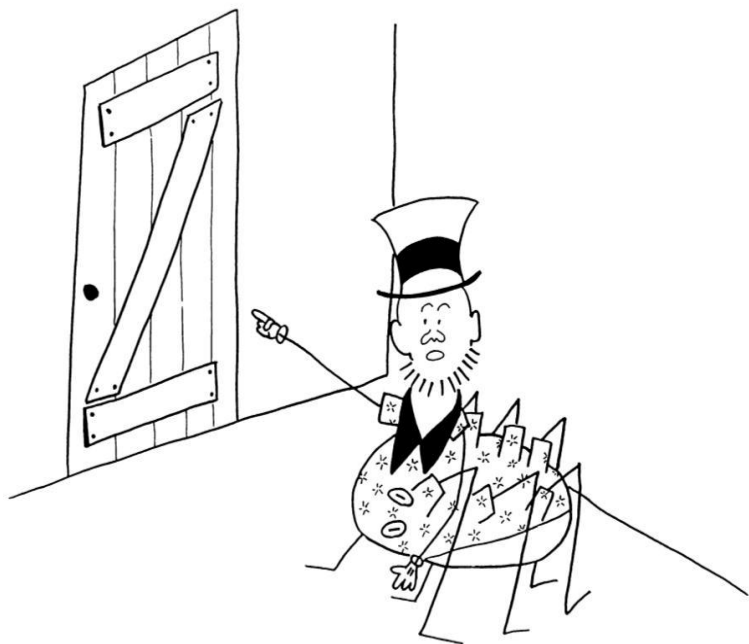
Dat da Braa Hanaasi yu
noa. Den ih seh, "Oah! Ai
noa weh fi du!"



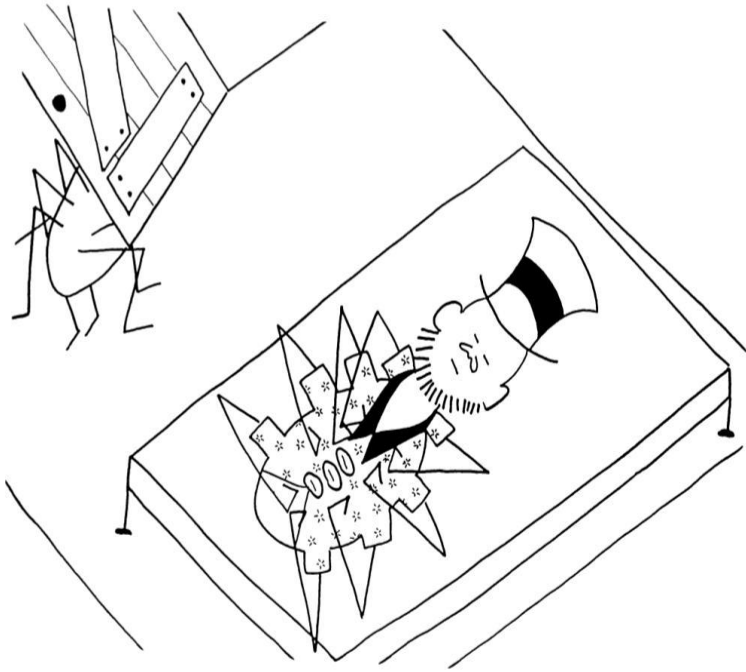
Ih seh, "Oakay waif, Ah
gwain pahn mi bed an Ah
wahn play ded!" Ih seh,
"Bot den, yu mos goh tel
aal di animal dehn dat
Hanaasi ded.



Den wi wahn get een aal
di animal dehn, ahn den
wen di taim kohn now,
Ah wahn moov mi big
toa.



Den yu wahn noa fi goh
shet di doa. Den Ah
wahn jomp op ahn staat
kil dehn. Den wi wahn
geh plenti meet fi eet."



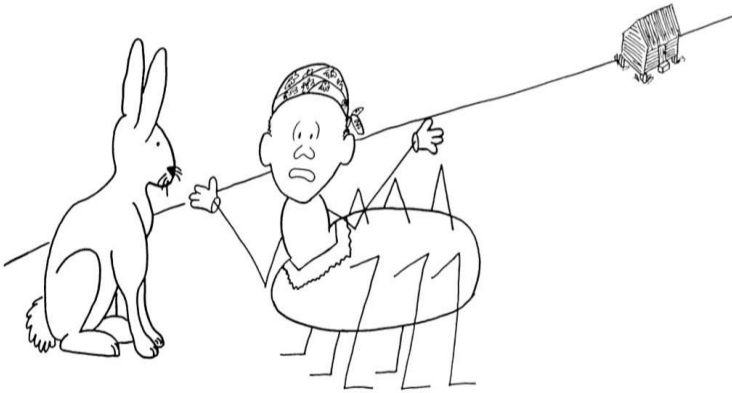
Soh now, Braa Hanaasi
deh pahn ih bed di
lidong, di play laik ih
ded. Ih waif di baal
gwain owt.



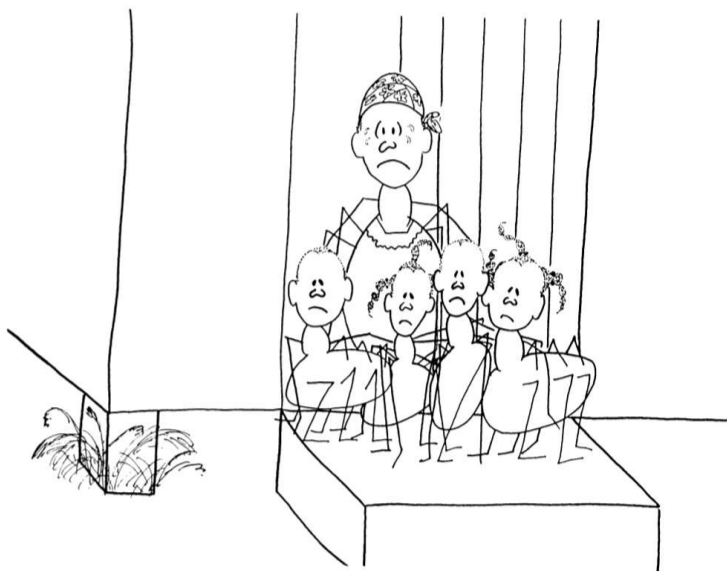
Ih meet Braa Taiga fos,
an ih tel Braa Taiga seh,
"Hanaasi ded!" Ih seh,
"An Ah noh noa weh fi
du."



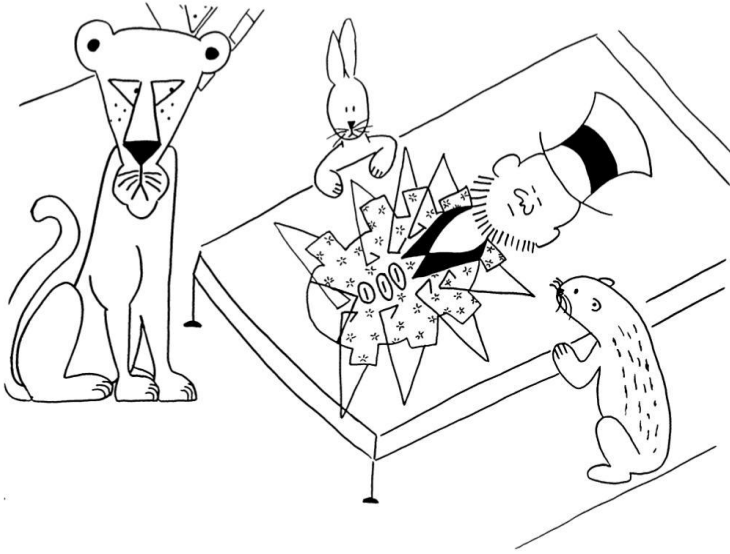
Ih gaahn lang ahn ih
meet op wid Braa Givnat
an ih seh, "Hanaasi ded!"



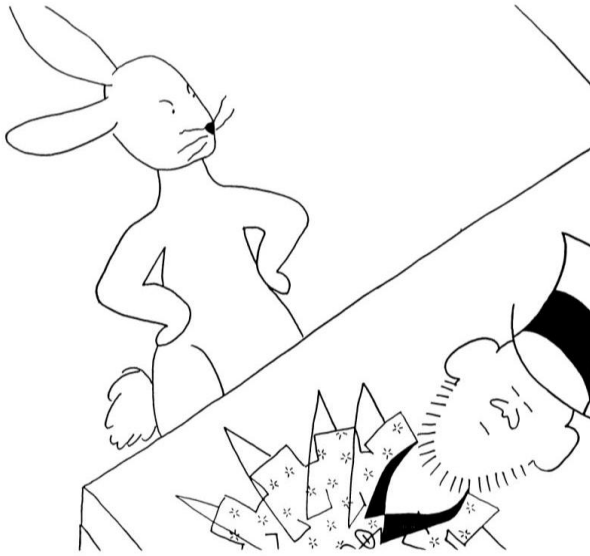
Den ih meet op wid Braa
Rabit an ih seh, "Hanaasi
ded!" Ahn dehn ih gaahn
bak hoahn.



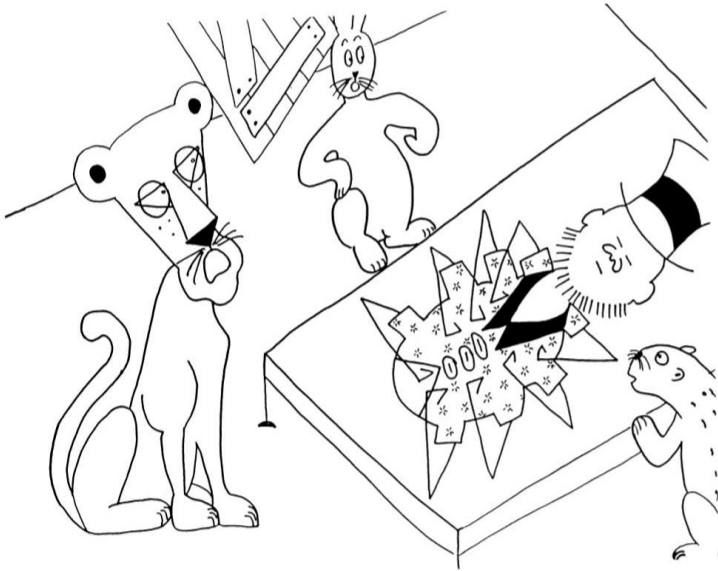
Ahn shee sidong deh wid
aal ih pikni dehn. Ahn
dehn di baal da di doa
sayka Braa Hanaasi ded.



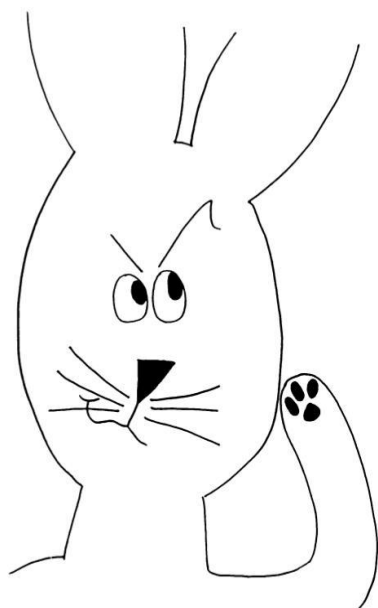
Wen yu luk, aal di animal
dehn kohn -- Rabbit,
Taiga, Givnat -- aal di
animal dehn kohn. Ahn
Braa Hanaasi deh pahn
ih bed, ded!



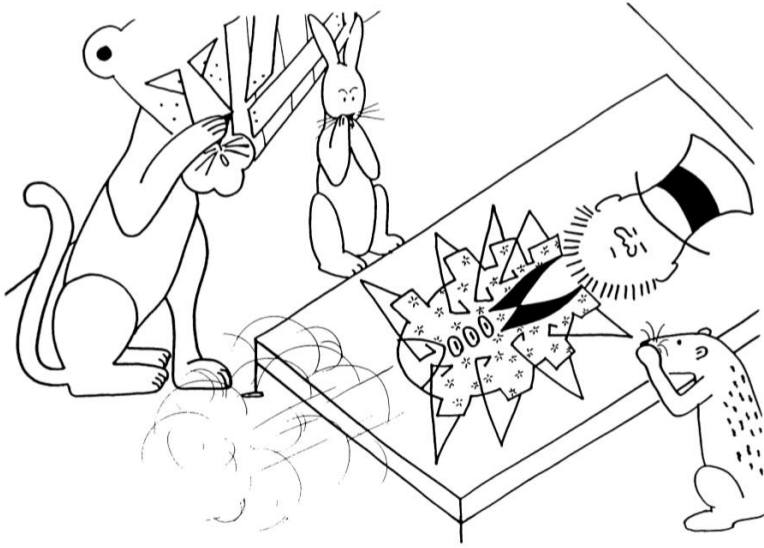
Now, Braa Rabbit da di
wan weh mi gaahn da
kalij. Soh hihn da smaat
man. Ih waahn si now if
Hanaasi ded fi chroo-
chroo, kaaz hihn don
sospish sohnting.



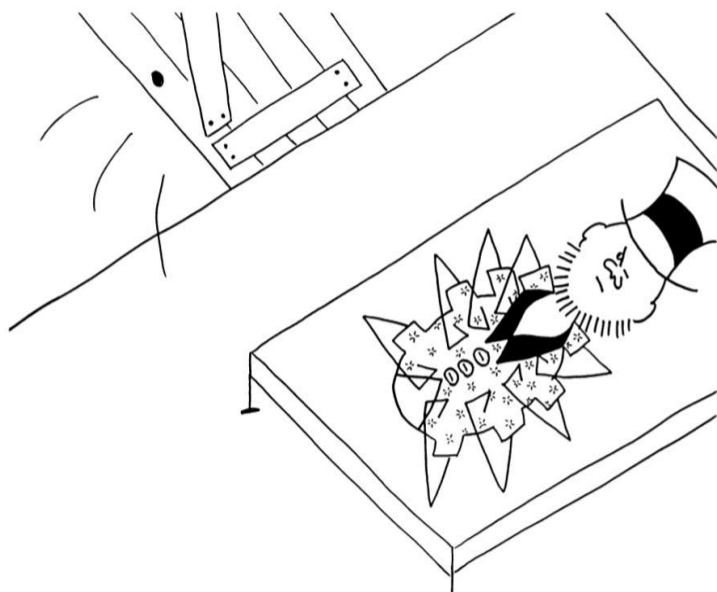
Soh, ih seh haad haad tu
aal di animal dehn, "If
wahn man ded, fi mek wi
noa ih ded fi chroo, ih
wahn hafu pum fi mek wi
noa ih ded."



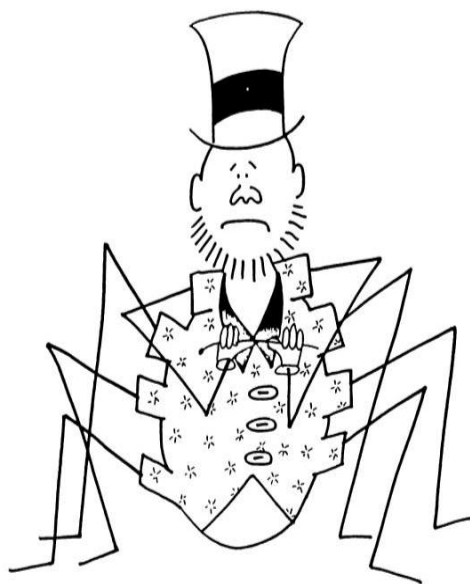
Bot wahn ded man
kyaahn pum! Bot Braa
Hanaasi noh noa dat.
Soh Braa Rabbit di chrik
ahn.



Wen Hanaasi yehr dat,
ih let owt wahn big pum,
"Puuuuuum!"



Wen Rabbit yehr dat, ih
hala, "Unu ron! Aala unu!
Braa Hanaasi noh ded!
Da wahn chrik!" Ahn
dehn ron gaan.



Braa Hanaasi geh soh
beks dat ih mash wahn
pin. An if di pin neva
ben, Hanaasi stoari noh
mi wahn en.