

Martingale Mudgedel Napanangka

When Tjama was little I hit her with stick.
'Give me *tjirrilpatja*', I bin say.
Tjama wouldn't give me *tjirrilpatja*.
The three sisters, the three Nampitjins — our mothers
— they bin sorry for us.
Sorry for me hitting Tjama.
Two father bring big mob pussycat.
Aunty tell me 'Don't hurt sisters!'
so we can walk round together.

Take *makura* to dry camp.
Diggem hole for soakwater other side of Palku Palku.
We bin drink water. Full up water.
Go hunting. Get *tjirrilpatja*.
We never bin sick. Nothing.
Get goanna and pussycats, mother bring big mob of
goanna.
Father kill pussycat, all around.
Get *kuka*, meat.
We bin havem bush tucker.

That three Nampitjins — my mothers — they never
tired to go for bush tucker.
All bin hunting, *yara* — bush potato, goanna and
mangarri.
Morning time go hunting.
Father go hunting.
Little kids stay with grannies, Yakula and Kumunturru.
Go other billabong find *mungil*.

When we older, we bin go up and down,
up and down, to Mangkayi. We travel up and down.
We bin frightened of kartiya. We scared about poison.
They might put us in jail —
might take us long way from family and home.
That's why we bin always go back to country.

Mother bin learn us to get *karnti*.
We bin at soakwater, Tjawatjawa.
We bin at Sturt Creek.
Come back from there.

We never forget Yaka Yaka, Mangkayi, Napulapunta.
We never forget.
We bin listen still!
Nakarra Nakarra.

Nyamu.



Nakarra Nakarra

karnti — desert yam
kuka — meat
makura — small coolamon
mangarri — food
mungil — little black seeds growing in claypan area that
come from salty bush and need proper cleaning before
eating
tjirrilpatja — pencil yam
yara — native millet



Tjama Freda Napanangka

We bin crying for *mingatjurru*. Them Nampitjins bin killing *mingatjurru* — the Nampitjins. They bin getting *minakurra* at hot weather time. *Kuwarr*, bush tucker. They bin looking for *kuwarr* and *mingatjurru*. And *mungil* — bush tucker, they wash it. Gettem seeds. Puttem on antbed to dry out. Make damper.

Father went hunting. They bin findem pussycat, summertime. Grandfather watched emu in water. That emu went drinking and grandfather bin knockem. Kill'em!

We big girl now. We bin living at living water in Ngalikutjarra. We got bush food. Digging self now, big girls, *tjirrilpatja* and hunting for rockhole. Lighting fire for cooking. At wet time we have *marnukitji* and then *ngarlpuruntji*. We never get sick. We having good bush tucker. *Warana* that blue tongue. Never get sick. Only when going to *kartiya's* house we get sick. Making damper. We got lots of bush tucker: *maratjirayil*, *kanintjurl*, *ngarlpuruntji*, *warngul warngul*, *mungil*, *kalitjita*, *tjurnta*, *tjarlpartpa*, *ngarkurru*, *kurtjatu*. We eating all this. No sick. Three Nampitjins and two Tjapangarti living together — my father and Marti father. Two Tjapangarti share three wives. We all living at Ngalikutjarra — living water there. Get all that bush food there. All the women bin getting rations — goanna, bush tucker for old women, for Law. Law of Ngalikutjarra. Living water there. Women learning *Yawulyu*. Little kids sitting home with red ochre over them. Mother bin go hunting and givem little goannas to eat. Summertime. Rub antbed on top that kid head. No headaches and cool! Mother puttem mud on head to make us cold. Father and mother bin go hunting afternoon time — get supper. No sick. This time we get cold sick. We go up and down all around Yaka Yaka and come back to same place. *Makura* — coolamon, take water in *malayi* to dry camp.

Nyamu.



Kuninyi Rita Nampitjin

We bin start from Yurngkunpali.
We bin finishing water.
From there travelling to every soakwater,
long way to Ngantjaltjara.
No water!
From there to Kumpultjirri.
Summertime, travelling summertime.
From there to Yarlul Yarlul.
No water!
From there to Kurungupanta.
No water!
We bin tired and slack from no water.
Go to Marl, other side of Lamanpanta.
We bin digging hole and sleep inside hole.
Make ourselves cool.
We bin start walking night time.
No moonlight.
We sick one now.



Nanyuma Rosie Napurrula

All the families bin going round Palku Palku, Tirripari,
Killikunyu, Tjipirrkulu.

Living there.

'You and me go back now', my mother bin say.

My father at Ngantalarra.

I bin little little, like little turkey.

I bin get up and watchem.

Two fella, father and mother, bin lightem fire and
lettem know.

Givem sign.

Grandfather coming!

Went to Tarlaparnta and lived there.

Ceremony in Kurnakulu.

We bin living all around.

Two fella come and bring back news.

We bin havem biggest rain.

Nyamu.



My father bin crying for kids.

Father and mother say,

'What will I do? I might lose all the kids'.

We bin cry.

Before sunrise we bin start walking east — *kakarra*.

We bin findem water now at Tjarkatjarka — rockhole
— deep one.

We bin happy.

Millie bin baby then. Little bit walking.

We go to Waratjirkulu.

Lots of tjirrilpatja there.

All bin living there now

as long as we find plenty tjirrilpatja and meat.

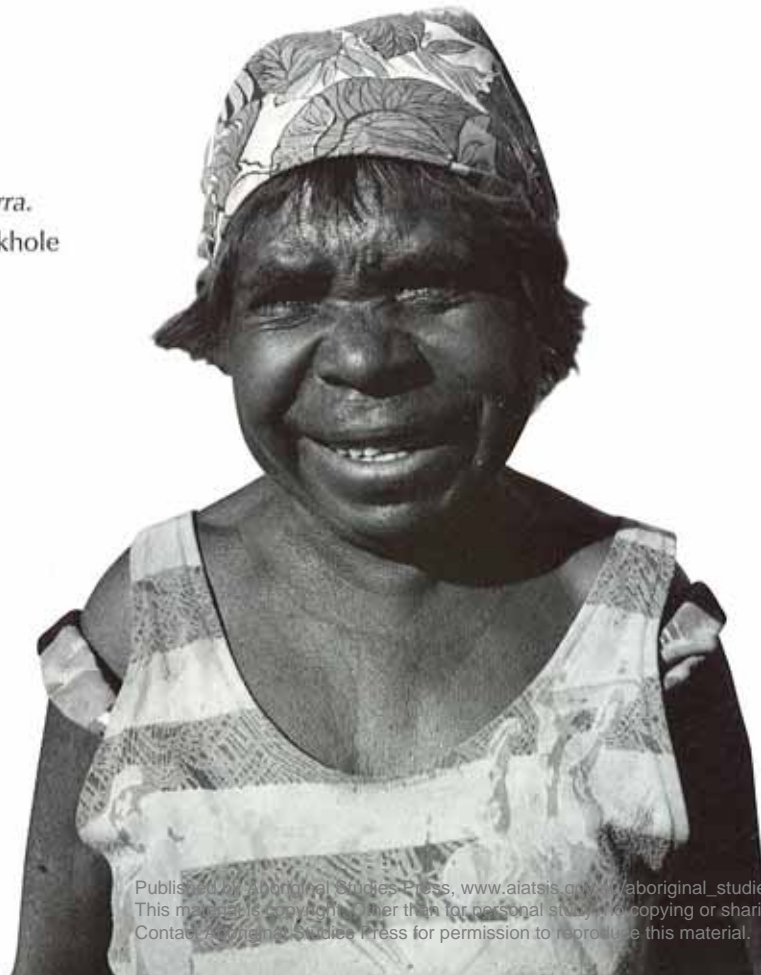
All bin happy.

Too much water!

All bin living there.

Can't leave there now.

Nyamu.



kakarra — east

kalitjita — like rice, seeds from spinifex grass
(lanu lanu)

kanintjurl — native millet

kurrtjatu — bush tomato (soft one)

kuwarr — bush currant; Acacia with black/yellow seeds

malayi — coolamon (water carrier)

maratjirayil — little brown seeds

marnukitji — blackberry, conkerberry, bush sultana

minakurra — golden bandicoot nest

mingatjurru — golden bandicoot

ngarkurru — bush tomato

ngarlpuruntji — like little cucumber

tjarlpartpa — bush tomato

tjurnta — bush onions

warana — blue tongue

wargul wargul — seeds

Yawulyu — women's Law, ceremonies, dance and
painting