

18 Mar 09: Began entering from Pa Joe's notebook

9 Mar 09, TC: Copied from Pa Joe's malfunctioning computer – not yet completely entered from his notebook, slightly edited – needs checking against recording

Seku Abdullahi Will on marriage

Transcribed by Joe M. Peku, 2–5 Mar 2009

Anina gbɛni yen cen kɛgɛɛ hu
The old people 9.8

ya pamu ke wɛ
when your father sees a woman 12.4
ya = yɛ

yegi miɛ wɔ lagba nago
after my son was an adult 13.7

kɛnga yamu wɔ lei kɛɛn
perhaps your mother will be travelling 16.1

si wɔ lema la yapa mui
and happen to see a young woman she will tell your father 19.4

wɔ han bɛ ha le ai yapa mu wɔ gbo le bia, wɔ le biya oo, ɛ?
when your father is Bia, he is Bia, right? 24.4

wama laa wɔ ɔwɔ ɔwɔ mugbato ɔwɔ kɛnin
There is a young lady at Mugbato (and) she is fine 26.5

yana ke wɔ kɛi e yan yale numa yama hɔn jɛn o jɛn
But I did not say anything to her. 32.9

ya mu lapeɛi lema

I would tell the woman first 34.0

Wɔ hale gu wɔn

He said, Is that true? 35.3

wɔ ha le ɛɛ.

She said, Yes.

wɔ hale, ya yema kɔ yii, han la wama wɛ

He said 36.2, I want to ask them for the woman.

yi ha yi kɔ la yegi hiye yen.

Let us start to go there for your son. 39.1

Page 1 ends here.

maa sen, hale ha kwei

He/She doesn't know whether they will go (to the woman) 40.9

yapam cen kɔ wo 42.6

my father would not go 42.6

yamu wɔ kwe 44.3

your mother would go

wɔ kɔna gbo 46.2

when she goes

o

si wɔ weni wɔ mballe hun 47.7

And she called her . lady come

Hana gbole wɔle bɔi bɔi yoo 49.7

If she is Boi you said Boi

Mui mballe Wɔle ɛɛ sɛgɛ o 52.

Good morning how are doing

pɛm muhun mbalɛ
please come lady 54.7

ya yema mu vuɪi la yegi miɛ 57.9
I want you for my son.

Yegi mui halɔ mu wɔn bɛ gbongi ilɛne
Which of your son.then you show his name 1:00.4

wɔle yegi miɛ wɔ cɔn mu jɛn . wɔle ya kɔla balin
she said my son want you. she answered yes 1:06.0

igbɛnan yo-o! cen kɛgɛlɛ hu, igbɛnan, o. 1:01.8
in the olden days, not just now, in the olden days.

olde- igbɛnan- kɛɛ
In the olden days 1:13

si wɔ can haa, si wɔn bɛ koi
When he pass them (their children), then he took 1:19

sin mu ii mbalɛ bii wɔ doma (1:20)
then you, lady, speak to her of love, take / engage her for love
doma = love

laa doma la ya mu hɔ wɛ la yegi miɛ o we.
It is a love I am telling
for my son

hana gbo wɔ cɔn wɔ go jɛn.
If she loves him 1:27

End of page 2

hana wama laa cɔn na gbo jɛn,wɔn bɛ mam daa

If she is interested, she will start to laugh daa 1.31.0

Wɔn kɔn na gon, feyɛ wɛ wɔ hu mat o-o
when she come back she will will hide the money which they give her
1:35.0

Wɔ ce hun gbongi kala o-o
she will not give it to her mother

38. wɔ hu matin gbán
she will hide the money tightly (from her mother) 3.5

39. se-e-e tɛnga hu koi ɔɔɔ yen
on til-l-l for about two days' time

40. si numa wɔ ɔn bɛ pɛi kɔ, mbalɛ ya mui komu yan
Then the woman (mother) went back, young lady, I have come again 4.3

40. gbasa hu wɔ yasu, kɛn ga si feyɛ sim mu kɛnga sin tayen,
She was with the headtie in her hand, and money about one or two
shillings
gbasa = 'headtie'

mbalɛ, lani yana hɔɔwɛ,
girl, for what I have told yozu for

landa ya hunaa.
That's why I came.

wɔ hali, ihi, kɛnga si wɔn bɛ wen nu lelan
She answered, Yes, perzhaps she will call another person 1:50.0

41. landa ya huna
That's why I came. 1:49

wɔ hale, ihi, tɛnga wɔn bɛ wen nu lelan
She answered yes. Sometime she will call another person.1:51

43. piyan so-o, mbalɛ, yana ke wɔ
in your hand, young lady, I saw her.

ya le ya cɔn wɔ jɛn | lá yegi miɛ
I say I love her for my boy's son.

kɛ landa ya huna ya na hɔ wɔ la
and that is what I have come to say.

44. ala gbɛn, kɛ ha ma kɛ wɔ yen-o-o
before, but they did not give her anything-o.
'it-old' "kɛ"

45. landa ya huna wɔni wɔ wɔn bɛ
That is what I came for another thing 2:03

46. wɔni wɔ wɔn bɛ yii, wɔ hale ku wɔn kɔwɛ
The other person asked her, to whom are you going? 2:04

ɛ-ɛ, hu yina haa, ha yip?
yes, what did you do, what did you bring?

47. a o wɔ le
They said to her, 2:09
(the people she is going to meet)

48. ti yan yi kɛn, yapam ni yaam lɔn bɛ pɛm,
Then I myself alone, my father and my mother
"ti" should be "si"

kɛi fɛyɛ sin tayan si wɔ kɛ wɔ Masaa, si wɔ kɛ wɔ, kɛ wɔ

gave Masaa to give her one or two shillings, then she gives her (and she
(Masaa) gives it to her (the boy's mother) 2:19
money given indirectly

wɔn bɛ, a-a-a, wɔ bina hun gbo
she herself, ah, after she received it 2:21

hu gbo ce wɔn yasun kiniŋ, si wɔ kɔ hun gbongi kala wɔ
The money was kept by her, until she went and showed her mother 2:20
kiniŋ 'all'

yem yoo numa wɛ wɔ hun kom yan
My mother, that woman she came to me here. 2:24

wɔ le wɔ yema mu la kajogɛ
She said, she wants you for a son. 2:27

yɛni hu wɔ kɛm bɛ yɛni, gbasa hu yɛni
She gave me this headtie, look at it. 2:30

kala wɔn bɛ hale (2:34),
Then her mother said,

mam da yipa, mam da yipa!
Let her not bring that to me,
yipa 'bring', da = la

yɛni hu wɔ ha lani
the reason why she did that 2:37

wɔ ken kai,
she has seen him (the young lady's father),

le kai ma sina la gbo
if her father does not know anything,

si ʋɔn ʋɔ gbige kiti

then she made (cut) the decision (without him knowing) 2:41.9

page 4 ends here

Nupoge sina la gbo ɔ ha ʋɔ ɔɔɛ ma ha ʋɔ singa

when the father knows that he will be annoyed. 2:34

oo ɛɛ si nuwe we ʋɔn be mun.

Then the person went back her home.2:49.7

nɔ ʋɔna gbo pei ɔɔɔ haa ʋɔn be pei muun,

she went back about three days she came again. 2:52.5

ʋɔn be ʋɔ gon ʋɔn gi nupoge

she has to go and meet the man. 2:55

Mbale, ya ná hun ko mu yan

young lady, I have come here to you. 2:58.6

la jenda la ya huna ʋɔ hale ihii.

I came for the problem. 2:58.6

Ƙɛɛ nupoge tei la o ƙɛ ʋɔ cen ɔɔ jɛn o jɛn.

But the man heard it, but he will not say anything. 3:05.6.

ya na hun yan mballa yana hun yan pa

I have come to you the young lady yesterday