



Utiembet

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Translated to Ibibio by *Iquo Diana Abasi*

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Anying mmi ado Orlando Zaki. *Orlando* ado anying idung ke obio mbakara. *Orlando Florida* awede ke afong mbon Red Cross ekennoh. *Zaki* ado anying idung mbon Red Cross eke nkidde mien ndien

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emben edi refugee camp ami adoho itie idung aṅ mbon idiniehe ufọk ke ntak ekọng. Mme ufan mmi ke camp ekere anying ekene si wede ke afọng idem amṅo. Acapulco asine afọng awedeke *Acapulco*. Afọng idem Sexy awede *Tell Me I'm Sexy*. Afọng Paris abo *See Paris And Die*. Mkpke kid nte anye Paris assanga adi, mme bōb anyen, koro ami nyemme adikpa. Akpọkọm afo abo ufa afọng idem, asuk abikere akaan anying. Paris ama anie ufa afọng awedeke *Ask Me About Jesus*, ado nnyin isuk ikod anye Paris, nnyin inyungḥo ibip anye Ibanga owo ntekied. Etok aboikpa ked ke camp nnyin ama anie afọng awedeke *Got Milk?* Ayin aboikpa ama'top afọng ado aduok sia usuk mkparawa ekemaha adi fiik anye esit, nse me eba amo anie mmong. Afo ukemeke idiongo sibiwede ke afọng mfo. Unyanga afọng ase ado ekamba anwan, ye mkpo mfoniso, uto nte Lousy assangake ko; afọng amo awede *My Dad Went To Yellowstone And Got Me This Lousy T-shirt*. Lousy ikanna anwan inwana, ado anam anye asine afọng kied ado tongo anye akedi itie idung nnyin ami. Afọng ama akaana, siwede ama akwuoko, ado, anying ado ayide anye nte itued. Usuk owo enie ata mfoniso: London ama anie afọng akewedeke *London*, mfin ami anye aba ke idung mfiaowo, London. Awuwan mbakara ye ebe amo ema edat anye nte ayin amṅo. Usen kied, ami nko nya nie ufa eka ye ufa ete k'idung Orlando, Florida.

Sister Nora akebo yak ami ntongo nwed mbuk ami, ake ambo ntom: *ukpuyem adifre mkpo, toyo anye, ndien ukpuyem itoyo mkpo, yem usung fre mkpo ado*. Sister Nora ase'tang iko ntoro, ke nkana nkana usung. Mmenim ke anye ama itang iko ke nke, sia anye adoho Reverend Sister. Anye asima adi nno mien mme nwed yak nkod. Ase abo ke ami mme nnie eno uno mbuk. Anye asin Sister Nora akere ke nya wed nwed usen kied.

Akpa nwed anye ake annoho yak nkod akere *Waiting For Godot*. Anye abo ke mme owo ke nwed ado etetie ebet Abasi adi nyanga amṅo. Ke itie nnyin idungoke ami, nnyin iba ke utiembet; ayo asiere, ayo akim amana asiere, nnyin isuk ibebet. Ukwenge mkpo se nnyin inam adoro. Nnyin imaida ibet ekamba mmoto aben ndidia adi, afid owo eya ewongo eda ke nnennen udim, ama, iya ibet udim nnyin aswana, ndien anwan asaka. Nnyin iya ikene inwana anwan, akanowoamia afo amia, akanowoataga afo ataga, akanmkpoaswan afo aswan, ukpekan afo asweng owo, adom owo, anyung awapa ndidia owo afege. Amaamado, nnyin iya ikikono iko ubo mmong, iditie ibet mmoto mmong. Iya ikama eyen ise me ekamba mmoto mmong asuk aboko ntong k'usung awad adi. Ndien, mmoto mmong amaadisim, iya itie ibet no edong mmong ke iko owo. Etok ini awo ked aya abo ke mmong iwaka ke ekamba mmoto ado, anwan aya amana asaka, nnyin inyung iwaak afong owo, iwai owo idem, inyanga mmong. Usen nnyin inie mfoniso ikid mmoto mmong adoro; uwak ini nnyin inyung ikakama iko mmong ibet, inyung ibong akam no edim adep.

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Mfin ami, nnyin ibet owo ndise adi sio nnyin ndise. Mme ndise ami ke mbon Red Cross e b'ino esok mme owo ke nsio-nsio idung k'obio mbakara. Mmọ ema ekiid ndise ami, eya esaat nditọ se ammọ eyem edidung ye ammo. Im'itie udua ita ibet owo ndise, ado, anye ana aboiyo mm'itie enwanake ekong ndien anye adiwuọ mi. Akeme inam anye idisimme mi mfịn. Anye ama asio ndise ama, ana nnyin ibet anye akemịng mme ndise ado, ndien anye aben adi yak nnyin iben inọ mbon Red Cross. Do ke nnyin ibi itongọ itie ibet iborọ ito mbon obio mbakara.

Nyem adi tie ye ufan mmi ke itak eto kied asughọke ke camp nnyin ami. Acapulco asuk awopo ndaidad ntan atop, ase me afim asuk affime; sia afim idifimmeke mfin, ntan ado anyung atimme aduokọ nnen nnen k'isong.

“Orlando, akere ke owo ndise aya adi mfịn ami?” Acapulco ambib.

“Akeme ido aya adi.”

“Akere ke mbon America eya edi ndat mien nte ayin ammọ?”

“Akeme ido, ukpu nie mfoniso.”

“Eya enie usobọ enọ ntok ikim ufok mmi?”

“Mkpasi-ibok ababa anọ afid udongo ke America.”

Acapulco ante mien: “Ami ndongoke, asido kwa nanga ndappa ndap ntok ikim ke esien, ado mma demme, afong ukod mmi adenge. Mkpo akedogho ndap adi wuọ ata ikim.”

“Asidappa ukem ndap kwa okoneyo?”

“Ey. Mkpe daka America, akere ke ete mmi ye eka mmi eya ekop ebanga? Me ammọ eya ewed nwed enọ ensok, ami nyung nwed ammọ, nnyung mbo ufa ete mme eka mmi eyak ammọ ediba ye ami?”

“Ekong ama akwenge, ete mfo ye eka mfo eya eduyem.”

“Ekong ami adi kwenge nsusen?”

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“Ndiṅgọke o, akpena asọp akwenge.”

“Apodo ekṅng aya asọp akwenge, nsinam mbon Red Cross esụk eyem usung nanga nnyin ikpika America?”

“Sia ammọ iyemme nnyin ikene idụk nka mkparawa ekoddo Youth Brigade, ese’etop owo ewod, enanga ndioi-ndioi mkpo y’iban. Awo iyemme nnyin iyip inọ, isin ikang, ibiat mme mkpọ, inyung inwana ntime-ntime, mbaak ediwod nnyin ikpṅng ufọk nwed.”

Acapulco asụk ase atie ikpṅng-ikpṅng k’itak eto, sia anye ama ibimme ọkpṅng mbime. Sister Nora asebo ke afṅn owo abib mbime, sia owo abippe mbime ikemeke idue usung. Idaha ado, Acapulco amana atop ntan ase me afim akpon. Imin asụk awuo ufan mmi k’utṅng, mkpọ ado anam anye atebe nte mbianga nkwa-unem. Utebe ado anyung anam mme owo imagha issanga mkpede anye. Nsung asụk akwọ ikwọ akene anye k’utṅng; anye ibṅṅke nsung ikṅ tutu nsung am’ayem adisṅṅ anye k’utṅng ndien anye abin nsung usọp-usọp.

Acapulco asemme, “Mkpa ma adinie ewa.”

“Nso k’afọ adinam mme ewa?”

“Mkpa da ye ewa mmi nsiongo ndise ebihino eka America, sia mbon mbakara ene ema ewa”

“Nkṅ ammọ enyung ema owo nanga.”

“Ey, ema owo, ado ammọ enekke ema mme owo emaha ewa.”

“London iki ikamake ewa isio ndise.”

“Akpaniko, idaha ami London adiba ke London.”

“Akem’ido afṅ nko aya asọp adaka Acapulco,” nke tang ntoro, ami ntṅng nsak etok imam.

“Idung ami ekṅṅdo Acapulco aba ke mmṅ?”

“Enie ekamba inyang ke nkang udo; inyang ado ayaya tutu.”

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“Ami mmaha utọ inyang ado; ndiọngọke adiwọk ewọk. Nyem adi’ka America.”

“Afịd owo ke America ediọngọ adiwọk ewọk; afịd ufọk ammo anienge itie uwọk ewọk ekōddo swimming pool.”

“Ami mkpa ma iwọk ewọk ke esit swimming pool, idoho ke ekamba inyang. Nke kop ke mmọng swimming pool ado anem ntom, anyung asana, afọn owo k’idem.”

Ami mme dọp uyo ntie ye Acapulco. Nnyin isụk ikop nanga tian aluminium ekemake ebọb mme ufọk nnyin anam uyom. Uyom ado aneke asọng, nte owo atop nkenge mkpasi ikang. Mme ufọk eboppo ke afọng akpo ye nsọng afọng ekōddo tarpaulin asuk anyenge ke afim nte mkpo mbre ntokayin esi yidde uduk yak aforo k’enyong nte inuen. Acapulco awupo ayogo ntan atop ke enyong. Afim aswan ntan ado. Ubaak ntan ado afime ad’itọ nnyin k’iso, Acapulco asak.

“Abasi idayake,” Acapulco ake’tang ntoro, ami nsioho uyo. “Mme ewa ema esi banga ke camp ami.” Acapulco afiọngọ mkpo ami sia anye ama ato aba ke itie idung ami ndien ami di. Anye akpon owo akan uwak ntokayin mi.

Abubid ewa ema ewak mi. Mme ewa ado ekebanga nte ufan nnyin, enyung ese ekpeme nnyin. Ndidia ama anana, ado, mme ewa ado ikiisi isangake mbiong. Akesido etokayin ama asoro adi toro uduang, ibaan ekod mme ewa, ammo efenge edi. Mme ewa e ma esibet ntokayin etoro uduang ema, ndien ammo ekoro efud ayin anye asana, ndien edia uduang ado. Mme owo ema ese etomo mbenge ndidia eno mme ewa. Idaha ado, ewa ema enyung enie nsio-nsio mfon. Utọ ini ado, mme ndioi owo ema es’edisintime ke itie idung nnyin ami. Akesido nnyin imaitipe isong ifeghe idibbe, ewa ekono mme mfaang ye nsio nsio mkpo efuk k’anyong ube anyin idibbeke. Mme ndioi owo eya ebuoyo itie ado, owo idiogoke ke nnyin mmo do idibbe k’esit ube.

Amaaba ini mbon Red Cross ek’etieghe udua iba owo ikanna iben ndidia idi camp nnyin, sia mbon ekong ikiyakka mmoto anyong ammo aforo aduk adi. Abiong ama’idong tutu nnyin iwud usuk ewa, item ammo ita. Akemado, mbon Red Cross edi kid ufang se ewad eduk itie nnyin. Mme ewa ado ikinemme esit, ado aba nte ammo ema ediongo ke idoho nnyin ik’inam; abiong akenam.

Ayogho nkemba, ndidia ikibaha aneke akpene usen. Isang ado, nnyin ik’ikanna imum ewa yak awak, akedo nnyin iti kpere ammo, ewa effenge essomo. Nnyin ima isuk imum ewa item ita. Akemado, nnyin

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ikidde mme ewa ado aba, mbon se iki feghe itimmeke idi aba. Usen kied, etokayin asoro adi toro uduang, eka ayin ake awongo anyen, ewa itiekied ema ewongo edi dom ayin ado. Eka ayin abong mkpo akak, mme ewa ekaiso edom ayin ado idem ewaak, akema, ewa ewip abuk ayin ado k'inua efeghe. Mme iden ema ekok afia, ewod usuk ewa ado. Mme owo ese ebo ke ewa ado ema edi song adudu nte ekpe. Usuk owo ebo ke ekong anam owo ikidde mme ewa aba.

Mme diomo k'esit mmi ke nya bip Sister Nora iko ewa ado. Acapulco aba nte adiongo se isine k'esit mmi, anye ambo ke ntang iko ado nno owo ntekied. Ke mme owo ke camp isimagha aditang iko mbanga mme ewa ado.

Ami mbo anye, "Nkereke ke owo ndise ay'asuk adi mfim ami aba."

Acapulco ante mien, "Usuk ini mmesikere ke mkpasi ikang mmodo anfagha ke mfri."

"Akpedo mkpasi ikang mmodo ufagha ke mfri, afo akpaake kpa."

"Mkpasi ado ake duk utong mmi anieghe mfina mi. Mme si kop nanga mkpo anbomo k'ibuot nte mkpasi ikang abomo, mme owo esuk ebong *useme, ndisime, bastard, wo di mi idabaado, iya iwong iyip mbufo mfin ami!* Amado, nya kop ufik carbide, ye ufik mkpasi ikang, ye mme nkanya efoppo ikang. Anyesin ibaan ema etem ndidia k'ifia, nsimmagha adikop ufik nsungikan ado; ase anam mkpasi ikang ado amana atongo abomo k'esit mfri mmi."

"Afid mkpo ado ayaatre afo uma uwọ America. Owo itemme ndidia k'ifia ke udo; es'etotod ikang etem ndidia k'udo."

"Zaki, afo ame adiongo afid-afid mkpo. Afo ananam die adiongo utọ uwak mkpo ami, ke adoho afo ukaha mme itie ami akpa?"

Ami mboro anye, "Mme si kod nwed awak eti-eti. Uwak ifok mmọ do adongo ke nwed, usuk nwed asinne mme nke akoro."

"Ami mmagha nwed im'iniehe ndise o; mma nwed aniehe ikpo, nyaaya-nyaaya ndise."

"Idoho afid nwed asi nie ndise. Nwed ntokayin kpod ase adongo ndise k'esit."

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“Ankaak adi sio ndise afịd ini s’eno eka obio mbakara, ado ibaha anwan mme ebe eyeme adi ndad mien nte ayin ammọ. Afịd owo se nke sanga kied ndi camp ami enie ufa eka mme ufa ete, afịd ammọ ema edanga obio mbakara ema. Ufan mmi kied ama anwed letter, akenọ nwed ato idung ekōdo Dakota. Me nsinam owo indadda nte ayin ammo, akere ke ammọ imagha iso mmi?”

“Mkpọ ado ado mfoniso; ini mfoniso mfo ikemme kanga.”

“Usụkini, nka idiok mparawa Youth Brigade ase anwud adi duk, ado nka ado ase anyeng idem. Nkop ke ese eno owo ikongekpo efip, ama do eya enwong iyip, ma ekan enwongọ mkpọ, mbak ammọ edi nie mbom nnọ owo, akpọkọm eka mmọ ye ete mmọ.”

“Sister Nora aya ayadesit akpe akop ikọ afo atanga do. Nkọ amediogọ ke anye anekke anam ufọn anọ afịd nyin, Mbon Red Cross nko, esụk eneke esin idem eyem ufa eka mme ufa ete unọ fien.”

Acapulco akpughọ nneme, “Idung ekoddo Dakota, an’ado anie ikpọ-ikpọ itiad.”

“Nsinam afo abo ntoro?”

“Nyung nkene nanga anying ado aba owo k’utong, nte uwak itiad aduongọ atọ idem ammọ. Mkpa ma adi ka itie ado enieghe Angels.”

“Akọm idung ekoddo Los Angeles?”

“Mme ndiọi owo ado ema ewōd mbon ufọk mmi sia nnyin iki diogọke adikod anying ekambawo ammọ mfọn-mfọn. Ekeebo ke nnyin ikanna i bo ‘Tsofo’, nnyin isụk bo ‘Tofọ’ ammọ eka iso etop nnyin ikang. Ufan mmi k’itie idung nnyin ammi ad’imkpeb nanga mkpe bo Tsofo, akebo yak ntang nte ntan ansine k’inua. Nte ikpọ ntan mmọ andoro ke edeme. Idaha’ m ami mme diogọ adikod anying ado nanga akpedodo.”

“Aafọn. Afo uma usim America, aya ayung akpeb itang ikọ nte mbon udo. Kwa nanga atang ikọ ayanam nte adi memen edeme, abiisem ikọ mbakara ntom *larer, berrer, merre, ferre, herrerr*. Di, akpena nnyin ika. Ini ndidia uweme aya asesim.”

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“Ami nnieghe inwek anwan. Ini ndidia amaasim ntom, idem ase anyeyeng. Akpedo eka mmi mmo akeba mi, mkpe doho ananaitie-idung. Eka mmi akpese atem ndidia anno, mkpe si nwanake anwan ndidia afid ini.”

Nnyin owomba idipe anyen ise nanga nsungikang awongò ke ayong ufok Ibaan etemme ndidia. Ukpe ukid owo adoho nsungikang asuk ase assanga ke anyong akom ammò uwemeyo, diongò ke owo ado anie eka. Mme kere me nanga ami mme Acapulco ido ananaitie-idung ye anana-eka ye ete anam nnyin isoppo ikid ufa eka ye ete s'iben nnyin inyong ufok ammò. Uwak owo s'ito mi ikaya obio mbakara edo mbon enieghe ete ye eka. Ntanga ikò ami nò Acapulco akop; nyemme anye atongò akere eka amò ye ete amò idikikanna ibo *Tsofo*. Usen kied mma kop owo nte abo ke akpedo Abasi ama aduak nnyin i bo *Tsofo*, Anye Abasi akpakeno nnyin edeme s'ikan ibo *Tsofo*.

“Acapulco, di yak nnyin issanga kied. Nya yanga ndidia unò.”

“Orlando, ufon afo adi yanga ndidia ibaha. Afidafid ntokayin enie ukpono unò fien, ebo ke afo ubakka owo ntekied, unyungò ubak mkpò ntekied. Ebo Sister Nora aneke uma fien ntom, ke afo amenie nwed asekke awed afid ndioi ndioi mkpò se mmeowo es'enanga, amanam afo ayaanò Sister Nora nwed ado anye akòd. Mbufo owomba ema etie adikòd mwed ami, eya etop iwod esaak imam nte ufa anwan mme ebe.”

Nnyin im'idangaida itongò isang ika ufok atian nte nnyin isi bò ndidia. Ufik *dawa* afimme anduk iwo. Ndidia nnyin asuk asedo usung *dawa* ado, asuk asedo k'ukem nwuno usan tian, nsung asuk ase kene ndidia nnyin; ado ikpana, ana nnyin isuk inyanga, inwana anwan ndidia kwa usen.

Kimono ato ankid mien, atongò ankod anying, ndien mme Aruba ye Jerusalem ye Lousy ye I'm Loving It ye Majorca mme mbon mfen ekene esio uyo. Mma atem ndidia, Chief Cook ama anen ada k'iso usan edongò *dawa* nnyin mme awawa efere. Ayinmma ami akama iso nte awuden adiongòke ke ibaan iba eya enwana anwan, ewai afong, eswenne idem ammò k'iwud imò. Chief Cook anyaan nnyin ubok, abo: ekiwana anwan mfin. Ikò se nnyin ika da ibet adoro; anwan asaka. *Dawa* mme efere aduoyò k'isong. Usuk owo ado nanga enyanga ndidia, esuk ewaak etok esin k'inua, mbaak apedo ndidia isimme ammò ke utid anwan. Mme sop mben iboro idem dawa kied, ntop nnò Acapulco, nke yan ubok mbi ben usan efere, Lousy atagha usan ansio k'ubok, efere aduokò k'isong. Anye asak ibak imam amò ado, ante mien: owo akpa mfa idiogòke nanga emum eba enang enyimme mmong eba, ado anye adiogò

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nanga anwanga mmong eba eduok. Chief Cook asuk abong: kuwana anwan! E da kiedekied, da ke nnennen udim, usung dawa ami awak akem afid owo. Ibaha owo akoppo ikon anye. Nke sin inwek mben ibio usan efere ama ake aduok asughon, ami nkama anyen mbo Acapulco yak iyem usung ikpong itie ado. Nnyin ik'isoro ke edem ufok ado, itongo idia mkpo k'ubok kied, ibin nsung ubok kied. Usung dawa iba ke nnyin ikama ye etok ibio efere. Nke dia akposung ifang, mme sughon nnon Acapulco, nkwooko ubok ke imugho afong ukod mmi. Anye abo ufen nsung tutu; ama abin nsung ke ndidia, afiak abin asio ke utong amon anieghe mfina. Anye ake adippe iso non ami nkid anyen amon, mme diongo ke anye adara nanga nsughon ndidia non anye.

Mme toyo nwed Sister Nora ake anohon yak nkod mbanga ayin uwene kied ke England ke ini eset, etokayin ado ama ase bo Chief cook amon amana asin ndidia anon anye. Ndise ayin ado k'edem nwed ik'imbaha mien nte ayin uwene. Afid ndito iden ke nwed ado ema essine coat, eyara itam, enyung enie mbon se itapa ndidia idong ke usan inon amon. Nyin inwawana anwan ndidia k'umi. Ukpe ubo chief cook amana unon ndidia mfen, anye adi yaan ubok uwod usung dawa mme efere aduokoke ayohon isong, abo ke nnyin inisima adi duongon ndidia. Mma dak mbib Sister Nora mbanga ndidia ye nanga nnyin isiwana anwan ndien nnyin ibon ndidia, ado anye ikimaha adi mboron. Akpa ami nkidde nanga anye asin adinwam owo ke ini mfina adoro. Akema, Sister Nora andokko ke imon inamma utom inon mbon Red Cross, ke inyung ido esenowo amon nanga ami ndo.

Nsuk nkere nanga mkpe dakka mkpong Acapulco, mkpa ma adi tie ikpong etok ini, ado nyemme adi non anye idiok esit. Mbo anye akono usan ndidia ake abono ke ufok anyin isibohon ndidia. Ufon adi yed usan ado ibaha sia nnyin im'ikoron usan ado k'edeme anye asana.

Acapulco ake akono usan adakka ufok ndidia, ami nduok idem usuk usuk.

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