

THE SOUTHERN STORIES

THIS SECTION OF THE STORY GOES BEFORE 'THE FINAL BATTLE'

Birrugan's Journey South

As soon as Birrugan got home, he got word from Arakoon. 'Come on, there's a big war on over here! Buulmay, they call it. They're cleaning up all our men.' He left red clay on the fork of the camp. (H.B.)

Gaarlaway-agay returned -!	Birruganba Birrugan	duuwa-garri boomerang-with	nguraalami-ng. to camp-did
Magay-agay red clay-!	maarrang. fetched	Ngilina-gay it-!	duuwa boomerang
			buurwang painted

Well, Birrugan came back home carrying a boomerang. Then he got some red clay and painted the boomerang with it.

Birrugan's mother, seeing the weapon painted red, guesses that there will be a battle.

GAWNGGAN

Birrugan,	juway	yaarri	ngiinda?
Birrugan	where to	now	you

Where are you going, Birrugan?

BIRRUGAN

Wa	Yaarri	Buulmay-gu
oh	off	war-to

Oh, I'm off to a war.

GAWNGGAN

Wa	ngii
oh	yes

Oh, yes.

He points to the red clay he has left on the fork of his mother's hut:

BIRRUGAN

Yaarri	yarraang!	Ya	nyayaga	magay!
off	going	this here	watch	red clay

Good bye! Keep watching this red ochre! [if something happens to me, it will fall]

NARRATOR

Yarraang-agay went-!	ngilina he	Birruganba Birrugan	yaarri away	buulmay-gu. battle-to
Birruding ran	ya this here	gul-yarraang shortcut-went		
Yarraang ran	Gamang-gaming-agay Gumma-wards-did-!			
gawarr across	yarraang-agay went-!	yang. that.one		
Gawarr across	yarraang went-!	gawaadaming crossed over		
jalay-agay continue-!	ngal-birruding across-ran	ngarri. he		
Yarraang went	wanggaandami-ng. southwards-did-!			
Ganggaaling-agay called-!	ngilina-du These>	bigaa-du. evil-spirits>		

Well then, Birrugan hurried to the battle. So he took a short cut towards Gumma. Across [the Nambucca River] he went and then across [Warrell Creek.] He crossed [the Macleay] and ran a little along [the Smoky Cape Range.] Along that range to the South of Arakoon he went till he reached Arakoon. There the demons summoned him.