

# Tanganekald Yan!

Speak Tanganekald!

*Keeping Ancestral voices alive*



Government of South Australia  
Department for Education



**Tanganekald is a language of the Ngarrindjeri Nation, from the Lakes and Coorong region of South Australia. These cards will help you learn some of the Tanganekald language.**

The illustrations in this set were created by Jacob Stengle (Karumapuli). Jacob was a Tanganekald-Ngarrindjeri man and artist who had a deep commitment to exploring and visually representing the cultural traditions of his Country. The illustrations featured in these cards draw from and visualise the Tanganekald stories told by his grandfather, Milerum (Clarence Long).

Each card is double-sided, featuring an illustration and story incorporating Tanganekald words on one side and the Tanganekald words repeated with the English translation on the other.

We acknowledge the Ngarrindjeri Aboriginal Corporation as the cultural authority for Tanganekald. We also acknowledge and pay our respects to the Ngarrindjeri People and the descendants of Milerum.

These cards have been produced by the South Australian Museum in partnership with the Mobile Language team, Jacob Stengle (Karumapuli) and his family. The cards have been made possible through funding provided by the Department of Education and are available online for use by school students across South Australia.

For more information, please visit  
<https://aboriginallivinglanguages.sa.gov.au/>

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# Tanganekald sounds and spelling

The Tanganekald alphabet has 28 letters and is quite different to the English alphabet, so you'll need to learn the sound that each letter stands for in order to accurately pronounce the language.

**a b d dh dj e g i k l ly m n ng ny o p r rr rl rn rt t th tj u w y**

Here are some of the sounds in the language to practise before you start.

## VOWELS

- a** sounds like the 'a' in English father.
- e** sounds like the 'e' in English pet.
- i** sounds like the 'i' in English bit. It can also sound like the 'ee' in beep when it is at the end of a word.
- o** sounds like the 'o' in English pot.
- u** sounds like the 'u' in English put. However, if this letter comes before the letters 'rl, rn, rt, r' then it sounds like the 'ur' sound in English 'turn'.

## COMBINED VOWELS

- ai** sounds like 'pie'
- ei** sounds like 'hey'
- au** sounds like 'now'
- oi** sounds like 'boil'



*Listen to the sounds of the language here.*

## CONSONANTS

- dh** sounds like the 'd' in English 'dog', but with the tongue pushed into the back of the front teeth as you say it.
- dj** sounds like the 'dg' in English 'judge'.
- ly** sounds like the 'll' in English 'million'.
- ng** sounds like the 'ng' in English 'sing'.
- ny** sounds like the 'ni' in English 'onion'.
- th** sounds like the 't' in English 'touch', but with the tongue pushed into the back of the front teeth as you say it.
- tj** sounds like the 'tch' in English 'match'.







The *mitji* of this wark  
is *Marangane*.

He is a *maldawuli*.

*Marangane* morpun from  
the top of a *pardhung*.



mitji

name

wark

crow

Marangane

name of the Crow

maldawuli

Ancestral being

morpun

watching


pardhung

granite rock



*Listen to the Crow Song here*





**Marangane invited many  
*palak* for a feast of *mami*.**

**It was a trick! He drowned them  
when they waded into the *yilgi*.**

**He turned the *palak* into stone  
reef called *Lakuldarar*. He also  
turned them into *rawuntulun*,  
*witin-witin*, and *djeipi*.**

Jacob 22

Marangane	name of the Crow
palak	people
mami	fish
yilgi	sea
Lakuldarar	stone reef at Beachport
rawuntulun	butcher bird
witin-witin	kingfisher
djeipi	quail



*Listen to the Crow Song here*





The *mitji* of this *yandi-orn*  
is Milerum.

He recorded Tanganekald *tungari*  
for future generations.

Milerum carries a *plonggi*  
and a *wana*.

He wears a *karatparaki*  
and a *murni*.



mitji

name

yandi-orn

old man

tungari

song

plonggi

a type of club

wana

a type of boomerang

karatparaki

basket

murni

kangaroo skin rug



*Learn more about  
Milerum here*







The *mitji* of this *wulu-meimini*  
is *Koromarang*.

Her *maranu* is a *prupi*  
*wulu-meimini*, *Prupe*.

*Koromarang* wanted to protect  
her *natjari* from *Prupe*.

*Cathy  
Jzi*



mitji	name
wulu-meimini	old woman
Koromarange	name of an old woman
maranu	older sister
prupi	evil
Prupe	name of the evil old woman
natjari	grandchild



*Read the full story about  
the two sisters here*







The *mitji* of this  
*wulu-meimini* is *Prupe*.

She lives on the *Kurangk* at  
a place called *Prupangawand*.

*Prupe porlar thakun*.



mitji	name
wulu-meimini	old woman
Prupe	name of the evil old woman
Kurangk	Coorong
Prupangawand	name of a place behind the Magrath homestead
porlar	children
thakun	to eat



*Read the full story about  
the two sisters here*







*Prupe* went *tondi* and so wanted to steal some new *peilu*.

She was going to kidnap *Koromarangé's natjari!*

But *Koromarangé* tricked *Prupe* and saved the *nganayeri*.  
*Prupe's manda* was destroyed.

Jacobs  
12'

Prupe	name of the evil old woman
tondi	blind
peilu	eyes
Koromarange	name of an old woman
natjari	grandchild
nganayeri	girl
manda	camp



*Read the full story about  
the two sisters here*





In the old times *wentwin karakoanyi*  
lived on the *ruwi*.

*Wentwin karakoanyi* barked like a *panmauri*.

*Wentwin karakoanyi* swapped its  
*turar* with *panmauri* and went  
to live in the *yilgi* instead.





wentwin karakoanyi

ruwi

panmauri

turar

yilgi

leopard seal

land

dog

teeth

sea



*Read the story of the  
Dog and Seal here*



In the old times *panmauri* lived in the *yilgi*.

*Panmauri* swapped its *turar* with *wentwin* *karakoanyi* and moved to the *ruwi*.

*Panmauri* were used by Tanganekald people for hunting *peindjali* and *wainggami*.





panmauri

yilgi

turar

wentwin karakoanyi

ruwi

peindjali

wainggami

dog

sea

teeth

leopard seal

land


emu

kangaroo



*Read the story of the  
Dog and Seal here*





A long time ago, the *peindjali nangar* tricked the *porolgi nangar* to destroy her *peletar*.

In revenge, *porolgi nangar* and *porolgi matjurunu* drowned the *peindjali lakinyeri*.

Today, *peindjali nangar* and *peindjali matjurunu* lie in the *yurli* as *pardhung*.



peindjali

nangar

porolgi

peletar

matjurunu

lakinyeri

yurli

pardhung

emu

mother

broilga

eggs

father

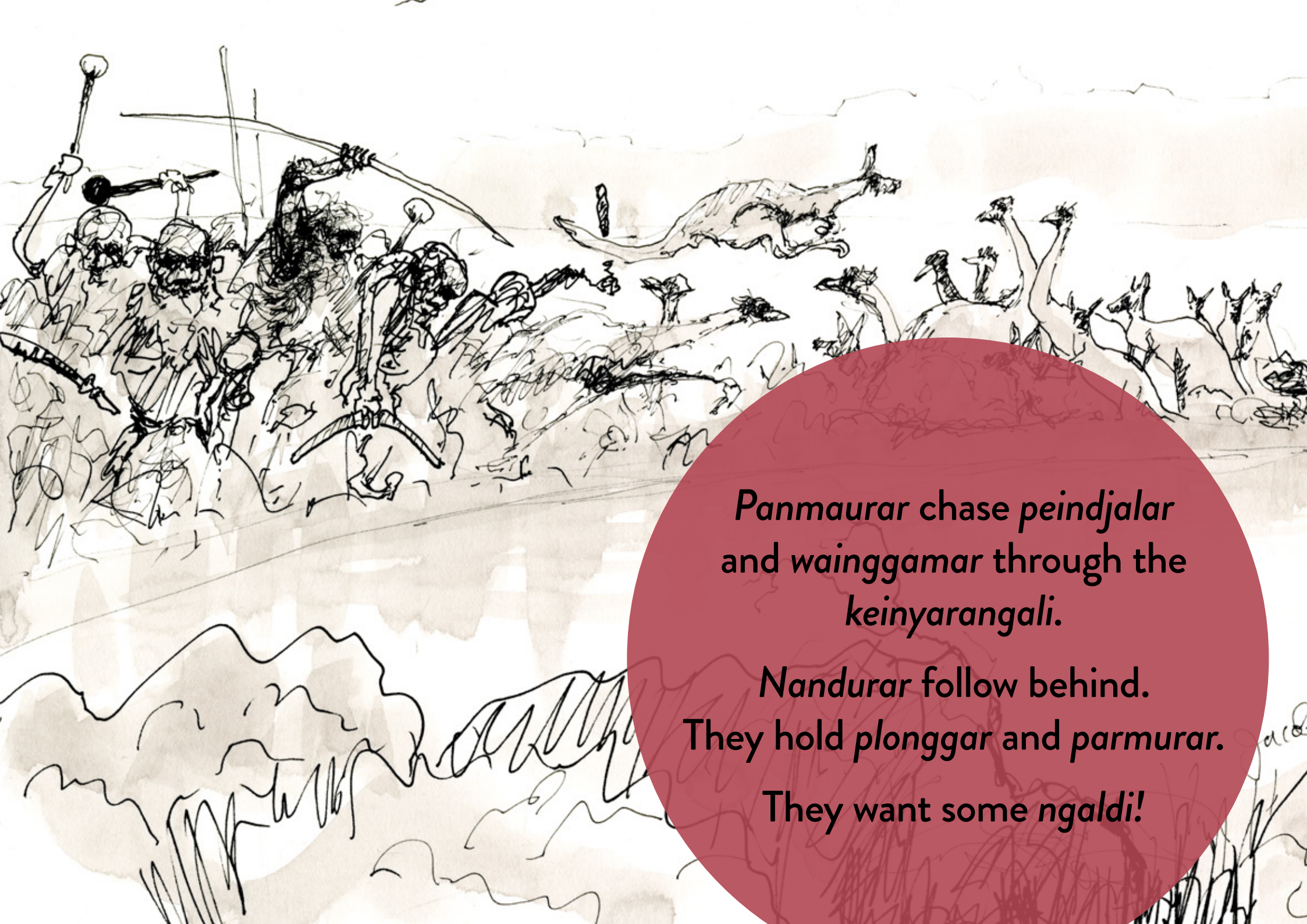
family

beach

granite rock



*Read the story of the Emu  
and the Broilga here.*



*Panmaurar chase peindjalar  
and wainggamar through the  
keinyarangali.*

*Nandurar follow behind.  
They hold plonggar and parmurar.  
They want some ngaldi!*



panmaurar

many dogs

peindjalar

many emus

wainggamar

many kangaroos

keinyarangali

grass tree scrub

nandurar

many men

plonggar

many clubs

parmurar

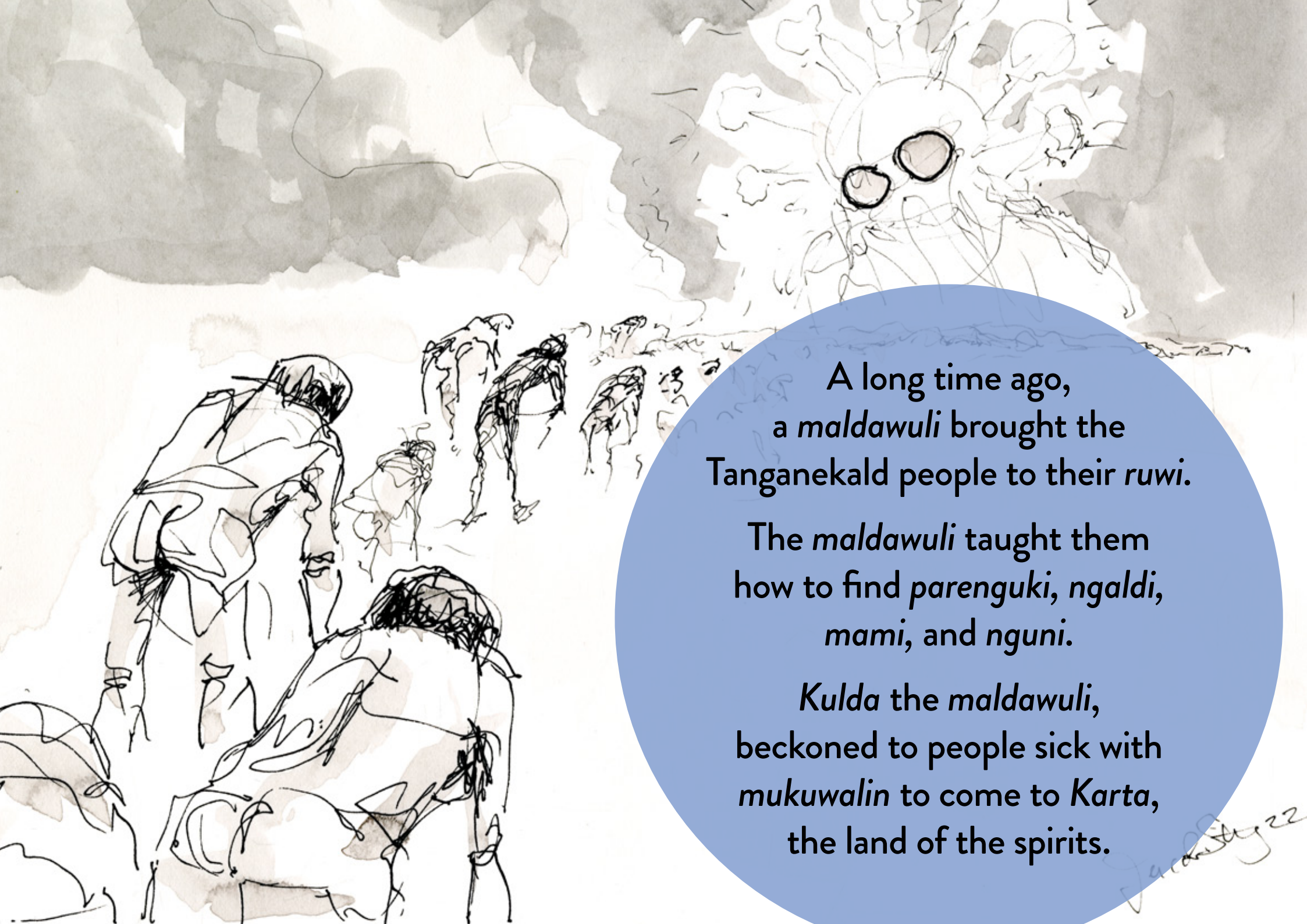
many spears

ngaldi

meat



*Listen to the Hunting Song here*



A long time ago,  
a *maldawuli* brought the  
Tanganekald people to their *ruwi*.

The *maldawuli* taught them  
how to find *parenguki*, *ngaldi*,  
*mami*, and *nguni*.

*Kulda* the *maldawuli*,  
beckoned to people sick with  
*mukuwalin* to come to *Karta*,  
the land of the spirits.

Jacobs 22



maldawuli

Ancestral being

ruwi

Country

parenguki

fresh water

ngaldi

meat

mami

fish

nguni

plant foods

Kulda

name of an Ancestral being

mukuwalin

smallpox

Karta

Kangaroo Island



*Listen to the Maldawuli  
songs here.*

