

Cite as: *l kháli néka – The bald woman*; performer: Eirini Potouriadi Platania; camera/interview: Thede Kahl; transcription: Thede Kahl, Sotirios Rousiakis; translation: Sotirios Rousiakis; editor: Ani Antonova; retrieved from [www.oeaw.ac.at/VLACH](http://www.oeaw.ac.at/VLACH), ID number: capp1239VGR0002a.

## Cappadocian Greek

1  
00:00:12,360 --> 00:00:14,320  
Ató to meselé tu na-ípó

2  
00:00:14,600 --> 00:00:16,680  
ípin-da i epé mu i Nerk'íza,

3  
00:00:16,920 --> 00:00:17,880  
i epé m i Nerk'íza.

4  
00:00:17,920 --> 00:00:20,560  
Éni liθiótiko amá ató!

5  
00:00:20,680 --> 00:00:22,240  
Atjí so melmek'héti

6  
00:00:22,320 --> 00:00:24,960  
ta fjóka paraðónkan-da mitsíka,

7  
00:00:25,040 --> 00:00:27,040  
ðekaéksi, ðekaeftá xronó,

8  
00:00:27,160 --> 00:00:29,320  
na mun-da párun i Túrtji s esk'éri.

9  
00:00:29,480 --> 00:00:31,960  
An néka iréfk'i na paraðósi to jó tu.

10

## English translation

1  
00:00:12,360 --> 00:00:14,320  
The story I am going to tell,

2  
00:00:14,600 --> 00:00:16,680  
my grandmother Nerkiza told me,

3  
00:00:16,920 --> 00:00:17,880  
my grandmother Nerkiza.

4  
00:00:17,920 --> 00:00:20,560  
But it is true!

5  
00:00:20,680 --> 00:00:22,240  
There in the homeland [Cappadocia]

6  
00:00:22,320 --> 00:00:24,960  
the boys were married off very young,

7  
00:00:25,040 --> 00:00:27,040  
sixteen, seventeen years old,

8  
00:00:27,160 --> 00:00:29,320  
so that the Turks could not take them into the  
army.

9  
00:00:29,480 --> 00:00:31,960  
A woman wanted to marry off her son.

10

00:00:32,280 --> 00:00:34,080  
Ípin-da o yontfís tu k'i:

00:00:32,280 --> 00:00:34,080  
Her neighbour said to her:

11  
00:00:34,200 --> 00:00:37,000  
<Sa stánu ton mechá éni an néka.

11  
00:00:34,200 --> 00:00:37,000  
<There is a woman in the upper  
neighbourhood.

12  
00:00:37,120 --> 00:00:39,520  
Ej tría k<sup>h</sup>eléja kortsóka, kuzéla kortsóka.

12  
00:00:37,120 --> 00:00:39,520  
She has three nice girls, beautiful girls.

13  
00:00:39,600 --> 00:00:41,720  
Ám-atfí, írp t-en to kortsóku.>

13  
00:00:39,600 --> 00:00:41,720  
Go there and ask for a girl.>

14  
00:00:41,800 --> 00:00:43,880  
Epiáyan atúta, epiáyan tomurtsíði

14  
00:00:41,800 --> 00:00:43,880  
They went and they brought matchmakers

15  
00:00:44,000 --> 00:00:46,360  
na párun to, na irépsun to kortsóku.

15  
00:00:44,000 --> 00:00:46,360  
to ask for the hand of the girl.

16  
00:00:46,400 --> 00:00:48,000  
Atfí ta kortsóka muyónkan-da,

16  
00:00:46,400 --> 00:00:48,000  
They were hiding the girls there,

17  
00:00:48,000 --> 00:00:48,920  
tjo θorínkan-da.

17  
00:00:48,000 --> 00:00:48,920  
they did not see them.

18  
00:00:48,920 --> 00:00:49,960  
Tjo ferínkan-da

18  
00:00:48,920 --> 00:00:49,960  
They were not showing them,

19  
00:00:49,960 --> 00:00:51,280  
sámu erxútun kanís sa musafírs.

19  
00:00:49,960 --> 00:00:51,280  
when someone came as a guest.

20  
00:00:51,280 --> 00:00:52,360  
Ta kortsóka muyónkan-da,

20  
00:00:51,280 --> 00:00:52,360  
They were hiding the girls,

21

21

## VLACH Transcriptions

00:00:52,360 --> 00:00:53,560  
tʃo fenésandi,

00:00:52,360 --> 00:00:53,560  
they were not to be seen

22  
00:00:53,880 --> 00:00:55,000  
tʃe ípin ti néka:

22  
00:00:53,880 --> 00:00:55,000  
and she told the woman:

23  
00:00:55,080 --> 00:00:58,360  
<Ipé to kortsóok, so tó tu () na párum so jo mu,

23  
00:00:55,080 --> 00:00:58,360  
<Tell the girl I am going to marry off to my son,

24  
00:00:58,480 --> 00:00:59,800  
na féri am-potútʃi neró,

24  
00:00:58,480 --> 00:00:59,800  
to bring a glass of water,

25  
00:00:59,840 --> 00:01:02,440  
na me féri am-potútʃi neró na n-da-íðó.> ()

25  
00:00:59,840 --> 00:01:02,440  
to bring me a glass of water to see her.> ()

26  
00:01:02,560 --> 00:01:04,480  
Píin i néka, íferin ti.

26  
00:01:02,560 --> 00:01:04,480  
The woman went and brought her.

27  
00:01:04,600 --> 00:01:05,760  
Ípin tiŋ-góri tu:

27  
00:01:04,600 --> 00:01:05,760  
She said to her daughter:

28  
00:01:05,760 --> 00:01:08,000  
<Ámi am-potútʃi neró, ðos ta si néka.>

28  
00:01:05,760 --> 00:01:08,000  
<Go and give a glass of water to the woman.>

29  
00:01:08,320 --> 00:01:10,240  
Píin atʃínus, ðótʃin-da to neró, i néka.

29  
00:01:08,320 --> 00:01:10,240  
She went and gave the water to the woman.

30  
00:01:10,320 --> 00:01:11,520  
Pukáítsan to kortsóku.

30  
00:01:10,320 --> 00:01:11,520  
They liked the girl.

31  
00:01:11,600 --> 00:01:13,480  
Ítun k<sup>h</sup>elés, kuzéli to kortsóku.

31  
00:01:11,600 --> 00:01:13,480  
The girl was nice and beautiful.

32  
00:01:13,640 --> 00:01:15,960

32  
00:01:13,640 --> 00:01:15,960

## VLACH Transcriptions

Ípin-da: <E-n-da párumi so jó mas.

She said: <We will marry her to our son.

33

00:01:15,960 --> 00:01:17,320

En kaó to kortjóku, kuzéli,

33

00:01:15,960 --> 00:01:17,320

The girl is good and beautiful,

34

00:01:17,320 --> 00:01:18,480

pukáintsam-da,

34

00:01:17,320 --> 00:01:18,480

we like her,

35

00:01:18,480 --> 00:01:19,480

e-n-da párumi so jó mu.

35

00:01:18,480 --> 00:01:19,480

we will marry her to my son.

36

00:01:19,720 --> 00:01:22,520

S-e-vdomáða,> ípin-da, <na píku to yámo.>

36

00:01:19,720 --> 00:01:22,520

We will have the wedding in one week.>

37

00:01:22,840 --> 00:01:27,000

Aré píkan to yámo atí.

37

00:01:22,840 --> 00:01:27,000

So they had the wedding there.

38

00:01:27,000 --> 00:01:28,880

Nik<sup>h</sup>exlétsani to kortsóku.

38

00:01:27,000 --> 00:01:28,880

They married the girl off.

39

00:01:28,920 --> 00:01:31,000

Atí to adéti. Tus ítun i nífi ()

39

00:01:28,920 --> 00:01:31,000

That was their custom. When she was the bride,

40

00:01:31,160 --> 00:01:33,400

i xarái tu tjo fenétuni.

40

00:01:31,160 --> 00:01:33,400

her face was not to be seen.

41

00:01:33,440 --> 00:01:35,120

Ítun jepazméni met-e-mendíl.

41

00:01:33,440 --> 00:01:35,120

Her face was covered by a scarf.

42

00:01:35,320 --> 00:01:37,640

Tjo θorínk'in-da () o yambrós ti nífi tu ítun jepazméni.

42

00:01:35,320 --> 00:01:37,640

The groom did not see the bride whose face was covered up.

43

00:01:37,640 --> 00:01:39,720

Kans tjo θorínk'in-da.

43

00:01:37,640 --> 00:01:39,720

Nobody saw her.

44  
00:01:39,920 --> 00:01:43,080  
Sámu pǎǎyani sto spíti, áu nik<sup>h</sup>exletístani.

44  
00:01:39,920 --> 00:01:43,080  
When they went home, they were married.

45  
00:01:43,120 --> 00:01:44,880  
Píyan, pǎǎyani sto spíti.

45  
00:01:43,120 --> 00:01:44,880  
So they went home.

46  
00:01:44,920 --> 00:01:46,520  
To fǎóku ínixsin to.

46  
00:01:44,920 --> 00:01:46,520  
The man opened [the house].

47  
00:01:46,520 --> 00:01:48,240  
Évgali to mendíli tiz-nékas tu,

47  
00:01:46,520 --> 00:01:48,240  
He took off his wife's scarf

48  
00:01:48,240 --> 00:01:50,480  
na-íǎí () tiz-nékas ti çaraí.

48  
00:01:48,240 --> 00:01:50,480  
to see the woman's face.

49  
00:01:50,680 --> 00:01:53,480  
Po na-íǎí! T<sup>h</sup>it<sup>h</sup>irétsan ta práǎa tu.

49  
00:01:50,680 --> 00:01:53,480  
What to see! His legs trembled.

50  
00:01:53,520 --> 00:01:55,080  
An tsár tǎ-ífin so çafá tu,

50  
00:01:53,520 --> 00:01:55,080  
She did not have a single hair on her head,

51  
00:01:55,160 --> 00:01:56,680  
ítun k<sup>h</sup>áli néka.

51  
00:01:55,160 --> 00:01:56,680  
the woman was bald.

52  
00:01:56,960 --> 00:01:59,760  
Ípin-da: <Ço, ató ti néka tǎo irévu ta.

52  
00:01:56,960 --> 00:01:59,760  
He said: <I do not want this woman.

53  
00:01:59,840 --> 00:02:01,880  
Ço met-itóna tǎo poró na pnóso.>

53  
00:01:59,840 --> 00:02:01,880  
I cannot sleep with her.>

54  
00:02:01,960 --> 00:02:04,320  
Ípin-da tǎ-o amís tu k'í:

54  
00:02:01,960 --> 00:02:04,320  
His uncle said:

55  
00:02:04,440 --> 00:02:06,040  
<Amán!> ípin-da.

56  
00:02:06,080 --> 00:02:08,760  
<Kónda () to piŋtambál-tsi ɣaraí tu

57  
00:02:08,760 --> 00:02:10,120  
tʃe pnósi ndáma tu.

58  
00:02:10,120 --> 00:02:11,160  
Po en na iní?

59  
00:02:11,240 --> 00:02:11,920  
En kunáɣa,

60  
00:02:12,000 --> 00:02:13,080  
tʃo porís n-da fík aré,

61  
00:02:13,120 --> 00:02:14,120  
nik<sup>h</sup>exletístis.>

62  
00:02:14,560 --> 00:02:15,360  
Ató ípin-da:

63  
00:02:15,360 --> 00:02:16,760  
<Xo tʃo poró n-da píku ató.>

64  
00:02:16,760 --> 00:02:19,000  
Ató s-álu tin ímera, zapaxtá sikóθan.

65  
00:02:19,200 --> 00:02:20,480  
Ípin-da ti néka tu k'i:

66

55  
00:02:04,440 --> 00:02:06,040  
<Goody!> he said.

56  
00:02:06,080 --> 00:02:08,760  
<Throw the apron on her face

57  
00:02:08,760 --> 00:02:10,120  
and sleep with her.

58  
00:02:10,120 --> 00:02:11,160  
What should happen now?

59  
00:02:11,240 --> 00:02:11,920  
It is a sin,

60  
00:02:12,000 --> 00:02:13,080  
you cannot leave her now,

61  
00:02:13,120 --> 00:02:14,120  
you got married.>

62  
00:02:14,560 --> 00:02:15,360  
He said:

63  
00:02:15,360 --> 00:02:16,760  
<I cannot do this.>

64  
00:02:16,760 --> 00:02:19,000  
The other day they got up in the morning.

65  
00:02:19,200 --> 00:02:20,480  
He told his wife:

66

## VLACH Transcriptions

00:02:20,600 --> 00:02:21,760  
<Eđó,> le, <pámi so míu,

67

00:02:21,760 --> 00:02:23,280  
su nerú to míu na lésum.

68

00:02:23,280 --> 00:02:25,600  
Na párum léku kotjí tje na lésumi to lévri.>

69

00:02:25,720 --> 00:02:26,720  
E, sikóθini.

70

00:02:26,720 --> 00:02:29,320  
Ézipsin to peik'íri son arapá.

71

00:02:29,440 --> 00:02:31,680  
Éθitjin tje đíu ndáia kotjí páno tu.

72

00:02:31,760 --> 00:02:33,600  
Pírin tje-a-ndáí pezó andáma tu.

73

00:02:33,680 --> 00:02:36,840  
Aré pían su nerú to míu na lésum to lévri.

74

00:02:37,080 --> 00:02:38,240  
Sámu piáyan atjí,

75

00:02:38,360 --> 00:02:41,480  
pírin-da ti néka, lé ta, o yambrós,

76

00:02:41,600 --> 00:02:45,840  
o ándras tu semađéftin, () nik<sup>h</sup>exletístini.

77

00:02:46,520 --> 00:02:48,480

00:02:20,600 --> 00:02:21,760  
<Come, let's go to the mill,

67

00:02:21,760 --> 00:02:23,280  
to the water mill to grind.

68

00:02:23,280 --> 00:02:25,600  
To take some wheat and to grind the flour.>

69

00:02:25,720 --> 00:02:26,720  
He got up.

70

00:02:26,720 --> 00:02:29,320  
He hitched the horse in the carriage.

71

00:02:29,440 --> 00:02:31,680  
He loaded two sacks of wheat.

72

00:02:31,760 --> 00:02:33,600  
He took one empty sack with him.

73

00:02:33,680 --> 00:02:36,840  
They went to the water mill to grind the flour.

74

00:02:37,080 --> 00:02:38,240  
When they got there,

75

00:02:38,360 --> 00:02:41,480  
the groom took the woman,

76

00:02:41,600 --> 00:02:45,840  
the man who wore the wedding ring, who was married.

77

00:02:46,520 --> 00:02:48,480

Émbasin-da so ndaï pésu.

He put her inside the sack.

78

78

00:02:48,760 --> 00:02:51,120

00:02:48,760 --> 00:02:51,120

Éltipsin to yuryúri tu, tu ndaïú,

He tied the opening of the sack

79

79

00:02:51,240 --> 00:02:53,840

00:02:51,240 --> 00:02:53,840

kóntsin-da so neró apésu ti néka.

and threw the woman into the water.

80

80

00:02:54,040 --> 00:02:58,320

00:02:54,040 --> 00:02:58,320

Ató élisin to lévri o nomát, írtini so spíti.

This man ground the flour and went home.

81

81

00:02:58,480 --> 00:03:00,280

00:02:58,480 --> 00:03:00,280

Tja pu ítun, írðin tje i néka.

When he was there, the woman also arrived.

82

82

00:03:00,400 --> 00:03:02,040

00:03:00,400 --> 00:03:02,040

<Tus ta pafáripsi!> lé ta,

<How did she manage!

83

83

00:03:02,040 --> 00:03:04,240

00:03:02,040 --> 00:03:04,240

<Tus évg'i,> lé ta, <sto --, sto ndaï pésu!>

How did she get out of the sack!>

84

84

00:03:04,280 --> 00:03:06,120

00:03:04,280 --> 00:03:06,120

Σaftçésin o nomát.

The man was shocked.

85

85

00:03:06,200 --> 00:03:07,640

00:03:06,200 --> 00:03:07,640

Aré po na píñi o nomát?

Now what did the man do?

86

86

00:03:07,640 --> 00:03:09,160

00:03:07,640 --> 00:03:09,160

[...]

[...]

87

87

00:03:09,280 --> 00:03:10,120

00:03:09,280 --> 00:03:10,120

Tufundá aré:

He was thinking:

88

88

00:03:10,120 --> 00:03:12,280

00:03:10,120 --> 00:03:12,280

<Po na píku, po na píku ató ti néka?>

<What to do, what to do to this woman?>



89  
00:03:12,480 --> 00:03:15,320  
E, s-áu tin ímer: <Prépi na pámi so potámi,

90  
00:03:15,440 --> 00:03:17,560  
na sorépsumi, n-da férumi t̥irkotíma,

91  
00:03:17,640 --> 00:03:19,440  
na píkumi soxúma na fámi.>

92  
00:03:19,560 --> 00:03:20,840  
<E kalá,> ípin i néka.

93  
00:03:20,880 --> 00:03:22,200  
Páli pírin ton arapá,

94  
00:03:22,240 --> 00:03:23,560  
pírin t̥-a ndaí ndáma tu.

95  
00:03:23,600 --> 00:03:25,160  
Píáyan so potámi.

96  
00:03:25,240 --> 00:03:26,520  
Sámu éftasan so potámi,

97  
00:03:26,520 --> 00:03:29,960  
émbasin-da, lé ta, pal so ndaí pésu ti néka.

98  
00:03:30,080 --> 00:03:31,600  
Éltipsin k'e to stóma tu kaó,

99  
00:03:31,600 --> 00:03:32,960  
éθit̥in t̥-a θáli.

89  
00:03:12,480 --> 00:03:15,320  
The next day: <We must go to the river

90  
00:03:15,440 --> 00:03:17,560  
to pick and bring arugula,

91  
00:03:17,640 --> 00:03:19,440  
to make rolls to eat.>

92  
00:03:19,560 --> 00:03:20,840  
<Well,> the woman said.

93  
00:03:20,880 --> 00:03:22,200  
He took the carriage again,

94  
00:03:22,240 --> 00:03:23,560  
he took one sack with him.

95  
00:03:23,600 --> 00:03:25,160  
They went to the river.

96  
00:03:25,240 --> 00:03:26,520  
When they reached the river,

97  
00:03:26,520 --> 00:03:29,960  
he put the woman inside the sack again.

98  
00:03:30,080 --> 00:03:31,600  
He tied its opening well

99  
00:03:31,600 --> 00:03:32,960  
and also put in a stone.

100  
00:03:33,120 --> 00:03:35,200  
<Na mi porési na vg'í,> léi.

100  
00:03:33,120 --> 00:03:35,200  
<So that she cannot come out.>

101  
00:03:35,520 --> 00:03:36,800  
Ató írθin so spíti.

101  
00:03:35,520 --> 00:03:36,800  
He came home.

102  
00:03:37,080 --> 00:03:38,680  
Páli i néka írtini.

102  
00:03:37,080 --> 00:03:38,680  
The woman came home too.

103  
00:03:38,720 --> 00:03:40,200  
Páli pafáripsin. Éltipsin,

103  
00:03:38,720 --> 00:03:40,200  
She managed again. He untied [the sack],

104  
00:03:40,280 --> 00:03:43,480  
éltsin to ndaï, páli írístin ksopíso so spíti.

104  
00:03:40,280 --> 00:03:43,480  
she untied the sack, she came back home again.

105  
00:03:43,920 --> 00:03:46,480  
<E,> ípin-da, <ató,> ípin-da, <en Alaxtán.

105  
00:03:43,920 --> 00:03:46,480  
<Well,> he said, <this is from God.

106  
00:03:46,600 --> 00:03:49,680  
Áo,> ípin-da, <o Θεός ípin-da si ména k'i:

106  
00:03:46,600 --> 00:03:49,680  
God told me this:

107  
00:03:49,760 --> 00:03:52,360  
<Ót pu na pík, ató en to íxpáli su.>>

107  
00:03:49,760 --> 00:03:52,360  
<Whatever you do, this is your fate.>>

108  
00:03:52,400 --> 00:03:54,000  
Tje ékatsan ndáma istéru,

108  
00:03:52,400 --> 00:03:54,000  
And they lived together,

109  
00:03:54,000 --> 00:03:55,000  
píkan k'e tjoftúxa.

109  
00:03:54,000 --> 00:03:55,000  
they also had children,

110  
00:03:55,000 --> 00:03:56,440  
tj-ézis-andáma tu.

110  
00:03:55,000 --> 00:03:56,440  
and he lived together with her.