

HOW THE EMU AND BRUSH KANGAROO EXCHANGED SKINS

21

In Nyitting times Wej the Emu and Yonggar the Kangaroo were men. One day the emu was out hunting and he heard someone chopping, so he went to where the sound came from and saw a brush kangaroo with his little boy. The kangaroo had taken off his booka (skin cloak) and left it on the ground where his boy was looking after it, and was up in a tree chopping into an opossum nest.

While he was up in the tree, the emu came close to the boy and said, "Is that your father?" The boy said, "Yes." The emu again said, "Is that your father up the tree?" Again the boy said, "Yes." Then the emu said, "That is a good booka you have got there. Is that your father's booka?" "yes," said the boy. "Let me put it on," said Wej, and he took off his feathers and put the brush's booka on instead. "This is a good booka," he said, "it fits me well. I am a fine fellow with this booka on - ngooman, ngooman am I - proud man am I," and he ran away with the booka and when the kangaroo came down from the tree, he had to put on the emu skin and he became an emu instead of a brush, while the emu changed himself into a brush.