

# Lesson 20

## Translation 3

### Vocabulary

dutha	to heal
elahela	celebration
en	to understand
ithedal	lamp [ith (light) + dal (thing)]
-lan	Suffix (Type-of-Sentence Word): said in celebration
náal	night
óotha	soul
rahith	darkness [ra- (NON) + ith (light)]
rilin	to drink
shidi	to be together

### Láadan Text

#### Elahela

Bíide dóhowa rosh oba lenethath wa. Héeya amedara Elízhabeth; ada le, izh Máyel shonám. Bii amedara onida lezhetha, i dótháa amedara Donith. Mehamedara hothul lezhetha, thul lezhetha i lezh; nin amedara wothal woroth. Aril hóya déela; liyen hesh, i metháa yáanin yuthu, i metháa mid.

Bíide ril lalom len wa. Mehen omid, rul i babí lom lenethoth. Mehen mahina, thili, i boshum íi lom lenethoth. Dótháa amedara ábed lenethoth; dutha lom óotha lenethath. Meshidi len, i mehelash i mehada len. Áya zho wa.

Bíide mehóoha len aril wa. Ham rahith; óol ithedal lenethom. Hathal náal. Aba wobun wobal berídanetho lezhetha. Merilin len worahowa wolaeth i meyod len womeénan woyuth. Meháana áwith.

Bíilan nin elahela shath i wotheth wa.

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## Your English Translation

Elahela

E: \_\_\_\_\_

Bíide dóhowa rosh oba lenethath wa. Héeya amedara Elízhabeth; ada le, izh Máyel shonám. Bii amedara onida lezhetha, i dótháa amedara Donith. Mehamedara hothul lezhetha, thul lezhetha i lezh; nin amedara wothal woroth. Aril hóya déela; liyen hesh, i metháa yáanin yuthu, i metháa mid.

E: \_\_\_\_\_

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Bíide ril lalom len wa. Mehen omid, rul i babí lom lenethoth. Mehen mahina, thili i boshum íi lom lenethoth. Dótháa amedara ábed lenethoth; dutha lom óotha lenethath. Meshidi len, i mehelash i mehada len. Áya zho wa.

E: \_\_\_\_\_

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Bíide mehóoha len aril wa. Ham rahith; óol ithedal lenethom. Hathal náal. Aba wobun wobal berídanetho lezhetha. Merilin len worahowa wolaleth i meyod len womeéan woyuth. Meháana áwith.

E: \_\_\_\_\_

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Bílan nin elahela shath i wotheth wa.

E: \_\_\_\_\_

## My English Translation with Morpheme-by-Morpheme Analysis

Elahela

Elahela

CELEBRATION

Celebration

Bíide eril dóhowa rosh oba lenethath wa. Héeya amedara Elízhabeth; ada le, izh Máyel shonám. Bíi amedara onida lezhetha, i dótháa amedara Donith. Mehamedara hothul lezhetha, thul lezhetha i lezh; nin amedara wothal woroth. Aril hóya déela; liyen hesh, i metháa yáanin yuthu, i metháa mid.

Bíide	dóhowa	rosh	oba	lenethath	wa.
DECL + NARR	CAUSETO + BEWARM	SUN	BODY	WE>5 + POSSBIRTH + OBJ	MYPERC

Héeya	amedara	Elízhabeth;	ada	le, izh	Máyel	shonám.
BEAFRAID	DANCE	ELIZABETH	LAUGH	I BUT	MICHAEL	PEACE + DOER = PEACEMAKER + IDENT

Bíi	amedara	onida	lezhetha,	i	dótháa	amedara	Donith.
DECL	DANCE	FAMILY	WE2-5 + POSSBIRTH	AND	CAUSETO + THRIVE	DANCE	EARTH + OBJ

Mehamedara	hothul	lezhetha,	thul	lezhetha	i	lezh;
PL + DANCE	GRANDPARENT	WE2-5 + POSSBIRTH	PARENT	WE2-5 + POSSBIRTH	AND	WE2-5

nin	amedara	wothal	woroth.	Aril	hóya	déela;
CAUSE	DANCE	REL + BEGOOD	REL + WEATHER + OBJ	FUT	BEBEAUTIFULPLACE	GARDEN

liyen	hesh, i	metháa	yáanin	yuthu,	i	metháa	mid.	
BEGREEN	GRASS	AND	PL + THRIVE	TREE	FRUIT + PARTV	AND	PL + THRIVE	CREATURE

The sun warmed our bodies. Elizabeth was afraid to dance; I laughed, but Michael was the peacemaker. Our family dances and the dancing causes the Earth to thrive. Our grandparents, our parents and we dance; the dancing causes good weather. The garden will be a beautiful place; the grass will be green, and the fruit trees will thrive, and the animals will be well.

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Bíide ril lalom len wa. Mehen omid, rul i babí lom lenethoth. Mehen mahina, thili, i boshum íi lom lenethoth. Dótháa amedara ábed lenethoth; dutha lom óotha lenethath. Meshidi len, i mehelash i mehada len. Áya zho wa.

Bíide	ril	melalom	len	wa.	Mehen	omid,	rul	i	babí
DECL + NARR	PRES	PL + SING	WE>5	MYPERC	PL + UNDERSTAND	HORSE	CAT	AND	BIRD
lom	lenethoth.	Mehen	mahina,	thili,	i	boshum	íi	lom	
SONG	WE>5 + POSS + OBJ	PL + UNDERSTAND	FLOWER	FISH	AND	CLOUD	ALSO	SONG	
lenethoth.	Dótháa	amedara	ábed	lenethoth;	dutha	lom			
WE>5 + POSS + OBJ	CAUSETO + THRIVE	DANCE	FARM	WE>5 + POSS + OBJ	HEAL	SONG			
óotha	lenethath.	Meshidi	len,	i	mehelash	i	mehada		
SOUL	WE>5 + POSSBIRTH + OBJ	PL + BETOGETHER	WE>5	AND	PL + PLAY	AND	PL + LAUGH		
len.	Áya	zho	wa.						
WE>5	BEBEAUTIFUL	SOUND	MYPERC						

We (many) sang. The horses, the cats and the birds understood our song. The flowers, the fish and the clouds understood our song. The dance made our farm thrive; the song healed our souls. We were together, and we played and laughed. The sound was beautiful, to my way of thinking.

Bíide mehóoha len aril wa. Ham rahith; óol ithedal lenethom. Hathal náal. Aba wobun wobal berídanetho lezhetha. Merilin len worahowa wolaeth i meyod len womeénan woyuth. Meháana áwith.

Bíide	mehóoha	len	aril	wa.	Ham	rahith;
DECL + NARR	PL + BEWEARY	WE>5	FUT	MYPERC	BEPRESENT	NON + LIGHT = DARKNESS
óol	ithedal	lenethom.	Hathal	náal.		
MOON	LIGHT + THING = LAMP	WE>5 + POSS + IDENT	BEGOODTIME	NIGHT		
Aba	wobun	wobal	berídanetho	lezhetha.		
BEFRAGRANT	REL + BENEW	REL + BREAD	AUNT + POSS	WE2-5 + POSSBIRTH		
Merilin	len	worahowa	wolaeth			
PL + TODRINK	WE>5	REL + NON + BEWARM = BECOLD	REL + MILK + OBJ			
i	meyod	len	womeénan	woyuth.	Meháana	áwith.
AND	PL + EAT	WE>5	REL + BESWEET	REL + FRUIT + OBJ	PL + SLEEP	BABY

We were weary afterward. It was dark; the moon was our lamp. It was a good night. Our aunt's fresh bread was fragrant. We drank cold milk and ate sweet fruit. The babies slept.

Bíilan nin elahela shath i wotheth wa.

Bíilan	nin	elahela	shath	i	wotheth	wa.
DECL + CELEB	CAUSE	CELEBRATION	HARMONY + OBJ	AND	WISDOM + OBJ	MYPERC

The celebration causes harmony and wisdom!

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# Free Translation

## Celebration

The sun warmed our bodies. Elizabeth was afraid to dance; I laughed, but Michael was the peacemaker. Our family dances and the dancing causes the Earth to thrive. Our grandparents, our parents and we dance; the dancing causes good weather. The garden will be a beautiful place; the grass will be green, and the fruit trees will thrive, and the animals will be well.

We (many) sang. The horses, the cats and the birds understood our song. The flowers, the fish and the clouds understood our song. The dance made our farm thrive; the song healed our souls. We were together, and we played and laughed. The sound was beautiful, to my way of thinking.

We were weary afterward. It was dark; the moon was our lamp. It was a good night. Our aunt's fresh bread was fragrant. We drank cold milk and ate sweet fruit. The babies slept.

The celebration causes harmony and wisdom!

## Comments

English has many, many tenses and modes; its narrative tradition is to put a story's action in the past, invoking many of its tenses to adjust to this tense-shift. In comparison, Láadan's set of tenses is fairly limited. This is not a problem, but it is convenient that Láadan's narrative structure is set in the present with the “-de” suffix on the Type-of-Sentence word; story events that take place in the past are rendered in the past with “eril” or “eríli,” and those in the future with “aril” or “aríli.” Of course, those merely supposed or hypothesized get “rilrili.”

Part-way through the first paragraph, our narrator stops the story to explain the family's activities. You'll notice this change by the repetition of the Declarative Type-of-Sentence word without the Narrative Mood Suffix. Of course, in the English, this change is less explicit; the English narrative past-shift is suspended for the duration of the digression.

In the first sentence of the second-to-last paragraph, we see a new use of a familiar word. Used postpositionally (at the end of a clause), “aril” or “eril” locate the action “later/after” or “earlier/before” in time, respectively, relative to some other action.

Note the Mood Suffix in the last sentence. It lends a sense of celebration to the otherwise simple declaration of the benefits derived from the celebration.

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