

An Litir Bheag

le Ruairidh MacIlleathain

An Litir Bheag is a shortened and simplified version of Ruairidh's Litir do Luchd-ionnsachaidh (also available on the BBC website), designed for those who are at an earlier stage of learning Gaelic. The topic each week is the same as Litir do Luchd-ionnsachaidh so that, once the Litir Bheag is mastered, a student of the language might wish to try the full Litir. This is Litir Bheag 117 (which corresponds to Litir 421). Ruairidh can be contacted at rodny.macleam@bbc.co.uk.

Rugadh Edward Faragher, no Neddy Beg Hom Ruy, ann an Creneash ann an Eilean Mhanainn. Bha sin anns a' bhliadhna ochd ceud deug, trithead 's a h-aon (1831). Bha athair na iasgair. Bha Neddy fhèin na iasgair fad mòran bhliadhnaichean.

Dh'fhàs Neddy ainmeil oir bha e gu math eòlach air dualchas Gàidhlig Eilean Mhanainn. Seo sgeulachd bheag aige, air a bheil *Thom Gordon as ny Mooinjer-Veggey* no *Tom Gòrdan agus na Daoine Beaga*: Bha fear a bha seo air an robh Tom Gòrdan. Latha a bha seo, bha e a' falbh dhachaigh. Thàinig an oidhche air. Chaill e an rathad. Chunnaic e solas. Chaidh e dha ionnsaigh.

Thàinig e gu taigh mòr. Nochd duine. Dh'iarr am fear seo air Tom a dhol a dh'iasgach cuide ris. Bha sluagh mòr a' tighinn airson suipear anns an taigh aige. Chaidh iad don tràigh. Chuir iad am bàta don uisge. Thòisich an duine eile air iasgach. Ghlac e tòrr èisg. Chaidh iad air ais don taigh.

Dh'iarr an duine air Tom fuireach na h-oidhche. Bha preas mòr ri taobh an teine. Bha am preas air a bheul fodha. Chuir an duine Tom anns a' phreas. Bha toll beag ann. Bha Tom a' coimhead tron toll.

An ceann ùine ghoirid bha an taigh làn daoine. Bha aon duine ann, agus falt liath air. Thuirt e, "Tha mi a' faighinn fàileadh de dhuine." Rinn iad rannsachadh ach cha do lorg iad Tom.

Shuidh iad a-rithist. Thuirt am fear le falt liath a-rithist gun robh e a' faighinn fàileadh de dhuine. Rinn na daoine rannsachadh a-rithist ach cha do lorg iad Tom.

Thuirt fear eile, "Cuiridh sinn am preas thairis." Dh'èigh Tom ann an guth mòr, "Sìth Dhè orm, lorg sibh mi." Ann am priobadh na sùla, bha an taigh agus na daoine air falbh. Bha Tom ann an Lhag ny Killey (Lag na Coille). Bha e na laighe air bad còinnich. Bha e a' tuigsinn gun robh e air a bhith còmhlà ris na sìthichean.

Dh'èirich e. Fhuair e an rathad dhachaigh. Thug a bhean leann dha agus chaidh e a leabaidh. Nise, feumaidh gun do dh'innis e an stòiridh do a bhean mus deach e a leabaidh, oir an làrna-mhàireach cha robh cuimhne sam bith aige air a' ghnothach.

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Faclan is abairtean: Bha athair na iasgair: *his father was a fisherman*; dualchas Gàidhlig Eilean Mhanainn: *The Isle of Man's Gaelic heritage*; air an robh Tom Gòrdan: *who was called Tom Gordon*; thàinig an oidhche air: *the night came upon him*; chaill e an rathad: *he lost the road/way*; chaidh e dha ionnsaigh: *he went towards it*; nochd duine: *a man appeared*; a dhol a dh'iasgach cuide ris: *to go fishing with him*; bha sluagh mòr a' tighinn airson suipear anns an taigh aige: *a lot of people were coming for supper in his house*; chuir iad am bàta don uisge: *they put the boat into the water*; ghlac e tòrr èisg: *he caught many fish*; dh'iarr an duine air Tom fuireach na h-oidhche: *the man asked Tom to stay the night*; bha am preas air a bheul fodha: *the press/cupboard was face down*; bha Tom a' coimhead tron toll: *Tom was looking through the hole*; an ceann ùine ghoirid: *after a short time*; falt liath: *grey hair*; tha mi a' faighinn fàileadh de dhuine: *I smell a man*; cha do lorg iad: *they didn't find*; cuiridh sinn am preas thairis: *we'll turn over the cupboard*; Sìth Dhè orm, lorg sibh mi: *the peace of God be upon me, you found me*; ann am priobadh na sùla: *in the blink of an eye*; na laighe air bad còinnich: *lying on a clump of moss*; gun robh e air a bhith còmhla ris na sìthichean: *that he had been with the fairies*; thug a bhean leann dha: *his wife gave him ale*; feumaidh gun do dh'innis e an stòiridh mus deach e a leabaidh: *he must have told the story before he went to bed*; an làrna-mhàireach cha robh cuimhne sam bith aige air a' ghnòthach: *the next day he had no memory of the affair*.

ends