

Papyrus Westcar

Rosmorduc

Created on 2008-08-06 by Mark-Jan Nederhof. Last modified 2009-06-09.

Papyrus Westcar, adopted from Serge Rosmorduc's MdC version. Reworked into RES according to Blackman's transcription. Further fine-tuning is needed from position 2,3, and the transcription given here may not be reliable.

Some omissions from Blackman's transcription as noted by Davies have been emended.




Only text is shaded that is written between square brackets by Blackman.

Nederhof - English

Created on 2008-11-11 by Mark-Jan Nederhof. Last modified 2009-06-22.

Transliteration and translation for Papyrus Westcar (Berlin Papyrus 3033), following the transcription of Blackman (1988). Written between square brackets are only those transliterations and translations that correspond to restorations of the hieroglyphic other than those given on the left-hand side pages of Blackman (1988). However, I assume the following corrections:

- After 1,22 read  as .

- Directly after 2,9 where  and  are mingled, I assume Blackman (1988) just meant to write .

The transliteration throughout follows Hannig (1995). Transcription of personal names, except names of kings given by Hannig (1995), follows Parkinson (1997).

For published translations, see Lichtheim (1975), pp. 215-222 (covers only the text after 4,7); Parkinson (1997), pp. 102-127; Simpson (1972), pp. 15-30; Zonhoven (1992), pp. 273-276 (covers only the text after 6,22). Also considered where the examples from Graefe (1994) and Loprieno (1995).

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1,12
Ro

1,12
Ne | [...] dd.jn ḥm n nsw-bjtj Ḥwj=f-wj m^{3c}-ḥrw

1,12
Ne | [...] Then the majesty of the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Cheops, justified, said:

1,13
Ro

1,13
Ne jm dj.tw | m^{3c} t 1000 ḥnqt ds 100

Ne 'Let an offering be made of a thousand loaves of bread, a hundred jars of beer,

1,14
Ro

1,14
Ne jw³ 1 sntr | p^{3d} 2

Ne one ox and two balls of incense

Ro

Ne n nsw-bjtj Dsr m^{3c}-ḥrw

Ne to the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Djoser, justified,

1,15
Ro

1,15
Ne ḥn^c rdjt dj.tw šns | 1 ḥnqt djw 1

Ne and let there be given one cake, one jug of beer,

1,16
Ro

1,16
Ne jwf wrj sntr p^{3d} 1 n ḥrj-ḥbt | ḥrj-tp [J-m-ḥtp]

Ne a large portion of meat and one ball of incense to the chief lector priest [Imhotep],

Ro

Ne jw m³.n=j sp=f n rh

Ne as I have seen an example of his learning.'

Ro 

Ne jr.jn.tw mj wdt | nbt hm=f

Ne And one did as everything that His Majesty had ordered.

Ro 

Ne ḥ^c pw jr.n s³-nsw H^cj=f-R^c r mdt dd=f

Ne Then prince Chephren stood up to speak, and said:

Ro 

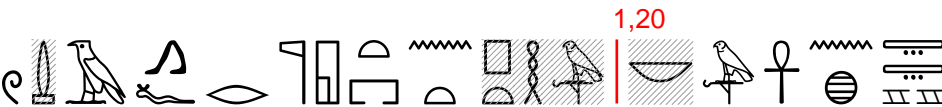
Ne | dj=j sdm hm=k bjyt hprt

Ne | 'I will let Your Majesty hear a wonder that happened

Ro 

Ne m rk | jtl=k Nb-k³ m^{3c}-hrw

Ne in the time of your forefather Nebka, justified,

Ro 

Ne wd³=f r hwt-ntr nt Pth | nb ḥ^cnh-t³wj

Ne as he proceeded to the temple of Ptah, | lord of Ankh-tawi.

Ro 

Ne jst rf jn hm=f šm r

Ne Now, it was His Majesty who went to [...]

Ro 

Ne [...] | [...] jn hm=f jrr [h]nt nt

Ne | [...] and it was His Majesty who performed the [rite] of [...]

Ro ^{2,6}

Ne jwms wn šspt | m pš š n Wb³-jnr ^{2,6}

Ne "Is there not a pavilion | in the garden of Ubainer?" ^{2,6}

Ro

Ne mṯ n jr=n ʒt jm=s

Ne Look, let us spend some time in it."

Ro

Ne | ḥ^c.n ḥḃ.n tḃ ḥmt Wb³-jnr n ḥrj-pr ^{2,7}

Ne | Then the wife of Ubainer sent a message to the caretaker ^{2,7}

Ro

Ne ntj | m-s³ pš š r ḏd ^{2,8}

Ne who | was in charge of the garden, to say: ^{2,8}

Ro

Ne jm sspt.tw tḃ šspt | ntt m pš š ^{2,9}

Ne "Let the pavilion that is in the garden be prepared [...]."

Ro

Ne [...] wrš.n=s jm ḥr swr | ḥn^c pš nḏs ^{2,10}

Ne And she spent the day there drinking | with the commoner [...]. ^{2,10}

Ro

Ne [...] ḥr-m-ḥt | mšrw ḥpr.w jwt pw jr.n=f ^{2,11}

Ne After | it had become evening, he came out, ^{2,11}

Ro 3,7

Ne jm | sspd.tw t3 šspt ntt m p3 š

Ne "Let | the pavilion that is in the garden be prepared,

Ro 3,8

Ne mk wj | jlj.kw r hmst jm=s

Ne since I'm coming to sit in it."

Ro 3,9

Ne ḥc.n sspd t3 šspt | m bw nb nfr

Ne Then the pavilion was prepared | with every good thing,

Ro 3,10

Ne š3s pw jr.n=sn wn.jn=sn ḥr | hlrw nfr ḥnc

Ne and they went and spent a happy day with the commoner.

Ro 3,11

Ne p3 nds ḥr-m-ḥt | mšr|w ḥpr(.w)

Ne After it had become evening

Ro 3,12

Ne jwt pw jr.n p3 nds mj nt-c=f | nt rc nb

Ne the commoner came out, as was his daily custom.

Ro 3,13

Ne ḥc.n ḥ3c.n p3 ḥrj-pr p3 msh | n mnḥ

Ne Then the caretaker threw the crocodile | of wax after

Ro 4,6

Ne ḥ^c.n ḏd.n ḥm=f n p³ | msh jn n=k p³y=k

Ne Then His Majesty said to the | crocodile: "Take what is yours!"

Ro 4,7

Ne ḥt pw jr.n p³ msh | r [...] nt p³ š

Ne The crocodile then went down | to [...] of the pool,

Ro

Ne n rh.tw bw šm.n=f jm hr=f

Ne and the place where it went with him never became known.

Ro 4,8

Ne | ḥ^c.n rdj.n ḥm n nsw-bjtj Nb-k³ m³c-ḥrw jt.tw t³ ḥmt

Ne | Then the majesty of the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Nebka, justified, had the

Ro 4,9

Ne | Wb³-jnr r šdw mḥtj n ḥnw

Ne wife of Ubainer taken away to a plot of land north of the residence

Ro 4,10


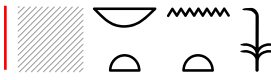
Ne ḥ^c.n rdj.n=f | ḥt jm=s [...] qm³w n jtrw

Ne and he burnt her, [...] thrown in the river.

Ro 4,11

Ne mk bj³y|t ḥprt

Ne Look, a wonder that happened

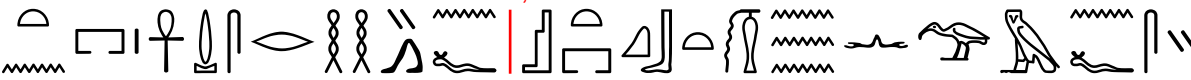
Ro ^{4,21}  ^{4,22} 

Ne [...] | [...] hrw n3 n jw¹ tmmt hpr ^{4,22} | [...] [ct²] nbt nt

Ne [...] | [...] day, the things that have not happened ^{4,22} | [...] every [room]

¹ Correct transliteration uncertain.

² Probable in light of the occurrence at 4,25.

Ro 

Ne pr-nsw ^{c.w.s.} r hḥj n=f ^{4,23} | st-qbt n gm.n=f sj

Ne of the palace (l.p.h.!) to seek distraction for himself, but he couldn't find any.

Ro 

Ne dd.jn=f js jn n=j hrj-ḥbt hrj-tp ^{4,24} | sš md3t

Ne Then he said: "Go and bring me the chief lector priest ^{4,24} | and book-scribe

Ro 


Ne D3d3-m-^cnh jn.jn.tw=f n=f hr-^cwj

Ne Djadjaemankh." And he was brought to him immediately.

Ro ^{4,25} 

Ne dd.jn n=f ^{4,25} | hm=f

Ne Then His Majesty said to him:

Ro 

Ne jw dbn.n=j ct nbt nt pr-nsw ^{c.w.s.} r hḥj n=j ^{5,1} st-lqbt

Ne "I've gone through every room of the palace (l.p.h.!) to seek distraction for myself,

Ro 

Ne n gm.n=j sj dd.jn n=f D3d3-m-^cnh

Ne but I couldn't find any." Then Djadjaemankh said to him:

Ro 5,2

Ne ḥwj | 3 wd3 ḥm=k r š n pr-3 c.w.s.

Ne "O | I may Your Majesty proceed to the lake of the palace (l.p.h.!),

Ro 5,3

Ne cpr n=k b3w | m nfrwt nbt nt ḥnw cḥ=k

Ne and man a ship | with all beautiful women from inside your palace.

Ro

Ro 5,4

Ne jb n ḥm=k r qbb | n m33 ḥnn=sn

Ne The heart of Your Majesty will be gladdened | by seeing them row a trip back and forth,

Ro

Ne ḥnt m-ḥd m-ḥnt

Ro 5,5

Ne | jw=k ḥr m33 sšw nfrw n š=k

Ne | and seeing the beautiful reeds of your lake,

Ro 5,6

Ne jw=k ḥr | m33 shwt=f ḥb3wt=f nfrw

Ne and | seeing its (surrounding) fields and its beautiful watersides.

Ro ^{5,7}

Ne jw jb=k r | qbb hr=s jw=j hm r jrt hnt

Ne Your heart will | be gladdened by this." "So I will arrange a rowing trip.

Ro ^{5,8}

Ne jm jn.tw n=j | wsrw 20 n hbnj b3k m nbw

Ne Let me be brought | twenty oars of ebony plated with gold,

Ro ^{5,9}

Ne hm^cwt jrj | m sqb b3k m d^cmw

Ne with handles | of sqb-wood plated with electrum.

Ro ^{5,10}

Ne jm jn.tw n=j st-hmwt 20 | m nfrwt nt h^cw=sn

Ne Let me be brought twenty women | who have beautiful bodies,

Ro

Ne m bntwt hnkytw

Ne who have well-developed bosoms, who have braided hair,

Ro ^{5,11} ^{5,12}

Ne | ntj n wp.tw=sn m mst hn^c rdjt jn.tw n=j j3dt | 20

Ne | and who have not been opened by childbirth. And let me be brought twenty nets

Ro ^{5,13}

Ne hn^c rdjt nn j3dwt n nn hmwt w3h hbsw|sn

Ne and let these nets be given to these women after their clothes have been taken off."

Ro 

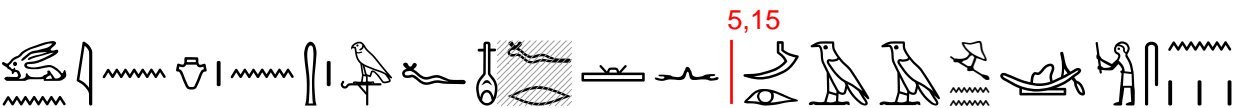
Ne ḥ^c.n jr mj wdt nbt ḥm=f

Ne And one did as everything that His Majesty had ordered.

Ro 

Ne wn.jn=sn ḥr 

Ne Then they rowed back and forth,

Ro 


Ne wn.jn jb n ḥm=f nfr(.w) n

^{5,15} | 

^{5,15} | m³ hnn=sn

Ne and the heart of His Majesty was gladdened by

^{5,15} | seeing them row.

Ro 

Ne ḥ^c.n w^ct ntt r štjw

^{5,16} | ḥt.n=s m ḥnkt=s

Ne Then one woman who was at the stroke oar got entangled in her braids

Ro 

Ne ḥ^c.n nḥ^w n

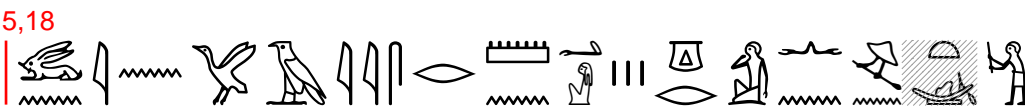
^{5,17} | mfk³it m³c ḥr(.w) ḥr

Ne and a fish-pendant of real turquoise fell into the water.

Ro 

Ne mw ḥ^c.n=s gr.tj nn ḥnt

Ne Then she became still, without rowing,

Ro 

Ne | wn.jn p³y=s rmn gr(.w) nn ḥnt

^{5,18} | and her side became still, without rowing.

Ro 5,19

Ne $\underline{d}d.jn$ | $\underline{h}m=f$ jn n $\underline{h}nn.n=t$

Ne Then His Majesty said: "Can't you row?"

Ro 5,20

Ne $\underline{c}h^c.n$ $\underline{d}d.n=s$ n $\underline{t}y=n$ $\underline{s}t$ | $gr.tj$ nn $\underline{h}nt$

Ne And they said: "Our stroke | has become still, without rowing."

Ro 5,21

Ne $\underline{c}h^c.n$ $\underline{d}d.n$ $n=s$ $\underline{h}m=f$ $tm=t$ $\underline{h}n$ | $\underline{h}r-m$ $\underline{c}h^c.n$ $\underline{d}d.n=s$

Ne Then His Majesty said to her: "Why aren't you rowing?" And she said:

Ro 5,22

Ne $\underline{nh}w$ pw n $\underline{mf}k3t$ $\underline{m}3^c t$ | $\underline{h}r(.w)$ $\underline{h}r$ $\underline{m}w$

Ne "This fish-pendant of real turquoise | has fallen into the

Ro 5,23

Ne $\underline{c}h^c.n$ [...] $n=s$ [...] | [...] $\underline{d}b3$

Ne water." Then [...] to her: "[...] | [...] replaced."

Ro 5,24

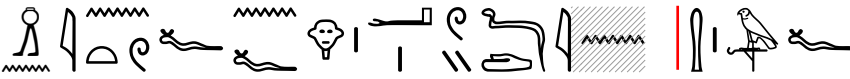
Ne $\underline{c}h^c.n$ $\underline{d}d.n=s$ $\underline{m}r=j$ $\underline{h}nw$ | $=j$ r $\underline{s}ntj=f$ $\underline{d}d.jn$ $\underline{h}m=f$

Ne And she said: "I prefer my own thing to its substitute." Then His Majesty said:

Ro 5,25

Ne js jn $n=j$ $\underline{h}rj-hbt$ | $\underline{h}rj-tp$ $\underline{D}3d3-m-^c nh$

Ne "Go and bring me the chief lector priest Djadjaemankh."

Ro 


Ne jn.jn.tw=f n=f hr-cwj dd.jn | hm=f

Ne And he was brought to him immediately. Then His Majesty said:

Ro 

Ne D3d3-m-nh sn=j jw jr.n=j mj n3 dd.n=k

Ne "Djadjaemankh, my brother, I have done as what you have said,

Ro 


Ne wn.jn jb n | hm=f qb(.w) n m33 hnn=sn

Ne and the heart of | His Majesty was gladdened by seeing them row.

Ro 

Ne hc.n nh3w n mfk3lt m3ct nt wct nt

Ne Then a fish-pendant of real turquoise of one of the strokes

Ro 

Ne štȳt hr(.w) hr mw hc.n sgr.tj | nn hnt

Ne fell into the water, and she became still, | without rowing.

Ro 

Ne jj.n h3d.n=s p3y=s rmn hc.n dd.n=j n=s

Ne And so it happened that she disrupted her side. Then I said to her:

Ro 

Ne | tm=t hn hr-m hc.n dd.n=s n=j

Ne | 'Why is it that you're not rowing?' And she said to me:

Ro

Ne ḥ^c.n jn.n=f sw rdj n ḥnwt=f

Ne He then fetched it and gave it to its owner.

Ro

Ne jst₁ rf jr | p₃ mw jw=f m mh 12 ḥr j₃t=f

Ne Now, as for | the water, it was twelve cubits in its middle,

Ro

Ne dr.jn=f mh 24 r-s₃ | wdb₁=f

Ne and it ended up being twenty-four cubits after its folding up.

Ro

Ne ḥ^c.n dd.n=f ddt=f m ḥk₃

Ne Then he said his magic spell

Ro

Ne ḥ^c.n jn.n=f n₃ n mw n p₃ | š r ḥ^cw=sn

Ne and returned the parts of water of the | lake to their positions.

Ro

Ne wrš.n ḥm=f ḥr hrw nfr

Ne His Majesty spent a day of celebration

Ro

Ne ḥn^c | pr-nsw^c.w.s. mj qj=f

Ne with | the entire royal household (l.p.h.),

Ro 6,15

Ne pr.n fq3.n=f hrj-ḥbt hrj-tp | D3d3-m-ḥnh

Ne and finally he rewarded the chief lector priest | Djadjaemankh

Ro

Ne m bw nb nfr

Ne with every good thing.

Ro

Ne mk bj3yt ḥprt | m rk jt=k nsw-bjtj

Ne Look, a wonder that happened | in the time of your forefather the king of

Ro

Ne Snfr-wj m3c-ḥrw

Ne Upper and Lower Egypt Snofru, justified,

Ro

Ne m jryt | hrj-ḥbt hrj-tp sš md3t D3d3-m-ḥnh

Ne and that is something that the chief lector priest and book-scribe Djadjaemankh did.'

Ro

Ne dd.jn ḥm n | nsw-bjtj Ḥwj=f-wj m3c-ḥrw

Ne Then the majesty of the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Cheops, justified, said:

Ro

Ne jm dj.tw m3c t 1000 ḥnqt ds 100

Ne 'Let an offering be made of a thousand loaves of bread, a hundred jars of beer,'

6,19
Ro

6,19
Ne | jw³ 1 snṯr p³d 2

6,19
Ne | one ox and two balls of incense

Ro

Ne n ḥm n nsw-bjtj Snfr-wj

m³c-hrw

Ne to the majesty of the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Snofru, justified,

6,20
Ro

6,20
Ne | ḥn^c rdjt dj.tw šns 1 ḥnqt ḏw³w 1 snṯr p³d

6,20
Ne | and let there be given one cake, one jug of beer and a ball of incense

6,21
Ro

6,21
Ne n ḥrj-ḥbt | ḥrj-tp sš mdṯt Ḍṯḏ-m-^cnh

Ne to the chief lector priest and book-scribe Djadjaemankh,

Ro

Ne jw m³.n=j sp=f n rh

Ne as I have seen an example of his learning.'

6,22
Ro

6,22
Ne | jr.jn.tw mj wḏt nbt ḥm=f

6,22
Ne | And one did as everything that His Majesty had ordered.

6,23
Ro

6,23
Ne ḥ^c pw jr.n s³-nsw Ḥr-ḏḏ=f r

6,23
| mdṯt ḏḏ=f

6,23
Ne Then prince Hordedef stood up to

6,23
| speak, and said:

Ro

Ne jw=f hr wnm t 500 rmn n jh m

7,3

7,3

| jwf

Ne who eats five hundred loaves of bread, a shoulder of beef for

7,3

| meat,

Ro

Ne hn^c swr hnqt ds 100 r-mn-m hrw

Ne and drinks a hundred jars of beer, up to this day.

7,4

7,4

| pn

Ro

Ne jw=f rh(.w) ts tp hsq

Ne He knows how to mend a severed head.

Ro

Ne jw=f rh(.w) rdjt sm

Ne He knows how to make a lion walk behind him, with its leash on the ground.

7,5

7,5

| m3j hr-s3=f s3d=f hr t3

Ro

Ne jw=f rh(.w) tnw jp3wt

Ne He knows the number of chambers

7,6

7,6

| nt wnt nt Dhwjtj

7,6

| of the sanctuary of Thoth.'

Ro

Ne jst wrš hm n nsw-bjtj Hwj=f-wj m^{3c}-hrw

Ne Now, the majesty of the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Cheops, justified, spent the day

Ro

Ne | hr h3j n=f n3 n jp3wt nt wnt nt Dhwjtj

Ne | seeking for himself these chambers of the sanctuary of Thoth,

7,7

7,7

7,7

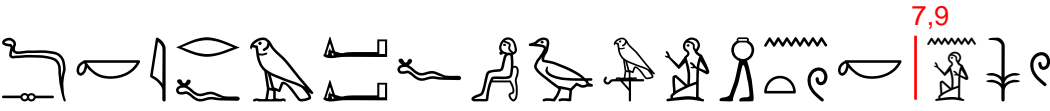
Ro 

Ne r jrt n=f mjtt

^{7,8}
| jrj n 3ht=f

dd.jn hm=f

Ne in order to make something similar for himself, for his 'horizon'. His Majesty said:

Ro 

Ne ds=k jrf Hr-dd=f s3=j jntw=k

^{7,9}
| n=j sw


Ne 'You yourself, Hordedef, my son, will bring

^{7,9}
| him to me!'

Ro 

Ne h^c.n sspd h^c.w n s3-nsw Hr-dd=f

Ne Then boats were prepared for prince Hordedef,

Ro 

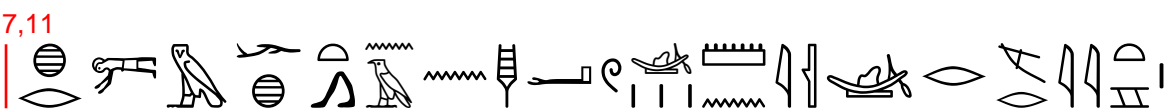
Ne 33s

^{7,10}
| pw jr.n=f m-hnt{h}yt r Dd-Snfrw

Ne and he went southward to Djed-Snofru.

Ro 

Ne m³^c-hrw

Ro 

Ne | hr-m-ht n3 n h^c.w mnj(.w) r mryt

^{7,11}
Ne | After the boats had been moored to the river bank,

Ro 

Ne 33s pw

^{7,12}
| jr.n=f m hrtj

Ne he travelled overland

Ro 7,22
 Ne wnm=k špss n dd nsw dḫw | n jmjw-šmsw=f 7,22
 Ne You will eat delicacies provided by the king, the foods | of his companions. 7,22

Ro
 Ne sb=f tw m ḥꜥw nfr
 Ne He will lead you through a good lifetime,

Ro 7,23
 Ne n jtw=k | jmjw ḥrt-ntr 7,23
 Ne and to your forefathers | who are in the necropolis.' 7,23

Ro
 Ne dd.jn Dj pn m ḥtp sp 2 Hr-dd=f
 Ne And this Djedi said: 'Welcome, welcome, Hordedef,

Ro 7,24
 Ne s³-nsw | mry n jt=f 7,24
 Ne prince | who is beloved of his father! 7,24

Ro
 Ne ḥs tw jt=k Hwj=f-wj m³ꜥ-hrw
 Ne May your father Cheops, justified, favour you.

Ro 7,25
 Ne shnt=f | st=k m jḳww 7,25
 Ne May he advance | your position among the elders. 7,25

Ro 

Ne wdꜥ pw jr.n ḥm=f r wꜥḥj n | pr-ᜭ

Ne His Majesty then proceeded to the audience hall of | the palace (l.p.h.),

Ro 

Ne ^c.w.s. sꜥ.jn.tw n=f Ddj dd.jn ḥm=f

Ne and Djedi was ushered in to him. Then His Majesty said:

Ro 

Ne ptj st Ddj | tm rdj mꜣn=j tw

Ne 'How is it, Djedi, | that I haven't been made to see you (before)?'

Ro 

Ne dd.jn Ddj njsw pw jy | jty ^c.w.s.

Ne And Djedi said: 'He comes who is summoned, | sovereign (l.p.h.).'

Ro 

Ne njs r=j mk wj jj.kw dd.jn ḥm=f

Ne Summon me, and look, I've come.' Then His Majesty said:

Ro 

Ne jn-ljw mꜣt pw pꜥ dd jw=k rh.tj ts tp ḥsq

Ne 'Is it the truth what they say, that you know how to mend a severed head?'

Ro 

Ne | dd.jn Ddj tjw jw=j rh.kw jty ^c.w.s. nb=j

Ne | And Djedi said: 'Yes, I know how to, sovereign (l.p.h.), my lord.'

8,15
Ro

8,15
Ne | dd.jn ḥm=f

8,15
Ne | Then His Majesty said:

8,16
Ro

8,16
Ne jm jn.tw n=j ḥnr ntj m ḥnrt wd | nkn=f

Ne 'Let me be brought a criminal who is in prison, and let his sentence be executed.'

Ro

Ne dd.jn Ddj n js n rmtj jty c.w.s. nb=j

Ne Whereupon Djedi said: 'But not to a human, sovereign (l.p.h.), my lord!'

8,17
Ro

8,17
Ne | mk n wd.tw jrt mnt-jrj n t^cwt špst

8,17
Ne | Look, doing something like that to the 'noble flock' is not ordained.'

8,18
Ro

8,18
Ne c^h.n | jn n=f smn wd^c tp=f

8,18
Ne Then | a goose was brought to him and its head was cut off.

8,19
Ro

8,19
Ne c^h.n rdj p³ smn r gb³ jmntj n w³hj

Ne The goose was placed at the west side of the audience hall

8,20
Ro

8,20
Ne d³d³=f r gb³ | j³btj n w³hj

Ne and its head at the east side of the audience hall.

Ro 9,4

Ne jw=j swt rh.kw bw ntj | st jm dd.jn hm=f

Ne but I know the place where it is kept.' Then His Majesty said:

Ro

Ne jw jrf tn dd.jn Ddj pn

Ne 'So, where?' And this Djedi said:

Ro

Ne jw cfdt jm | nt ds m ct Sjptj rn=s m Jwnw

Ne 'There is a casket of flint in a room called the Inventory in Heliopolis;

Ro

Ne (mk st) m t cfdt

Ne (well, it is) in that casket.'

Ro

Ne (dd.jn hm=f js jn n=j sj) dd.jn Ddj

Ne (Then His Majesty said: 'Go and bring it to me!') And Djedi said:

Ro

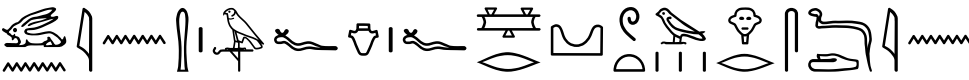

Ne | jty c.w.s. nb=j mk nn jnk js jnn n=k sj

Ne | 'Sovereign (l.p.h.!), my lord, look, I am not the one who will bring it to you.'

Ro

Ne dd.jn hm=f jn-m rf | jn=f n=j sj dd.jn Ddj

Ne Then His Majesty said: 'Who then I will bring it to me?' And Djedi said:

Ro  9,13 

Ne wn.jn ḥm=f jb=f w3(.w) r dwt ḥr=s dd.jn

9,13
| Ddj

Ne And His Majesty fell into a bad mood at this. Then Djedi said:

Ro 

Ne ptj jrf p3 jb jty c.w.s. nb=j

Ne 'What's this mood, sovereign (l.p.h.), my lord?

Ro  9,14


Ne jn jr.tw ḥr p3 | ḥrdw 3 dd.n=j

Ne Was it caused by the | three children that I mentioned?

Ro 

Ne k3 s3=k k3 s3=f k3 w3 jm=sn dd.jn ḥm=f

Ne First your son, then his son, then one of them.' Then His Majesty said:

Ro  9,15

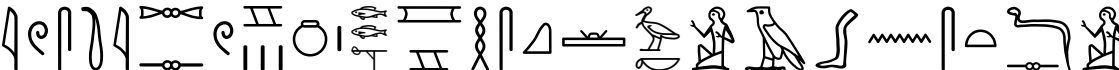
Ne | ms=s jrf sj nw Rd-ddt (dd.jn Ddj) ms=s

Ne | 'When will Ruddjedet give birth?' (And Djedi said:) 'She will give birth'

Ro  9,16 

Ne m3bd 1 prt sw 15 dd.jn | ḥm=f

Ne on the fifteenth day of the first month of the Season of Growing.' Then His Majesty said:

Ro 

Ne jw jst tsw nw Rmwj ḥsq(.w) b3k=j3 n st ds=j

Ne 'But that's when the sandbanks of Two-Fish Canal are cut off. Might I visit it myself,

Ro 

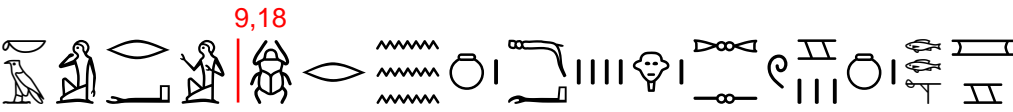
Ne k3 | m3n=j t3 hwt-ntr nt R^c nb S3hbw

Ne so that | I could see the temple of Re, lord of Sakhbu!

Ro 

Ne dd.jn Ddj

Ne And Djedi said:

Ro 

Ne k3 rdj=j | hpr mw nw mh 4 hr tsw nw Rmwj

Ne 'Then I will let | four cubits of water appear on the sandbanks of Two-Fish Canal.'

Ro 

Ne wd3 pw jr.n hm=f r c^h=f | dd.jn hm=f


Ne And His Majesty proceeded to his palace. | Then His Majesty said:

Ro 

Ne jm dj.tw m-hr n Ddj r¹ pr s3-nsw Hr-dd=f

Ne 'Have Djedi assigned to the house of prince Hordedef,

¹ The emendation here proposed by Blackman (1988) does not seem necessary.

Ro 

Ne hms=f | hn^c=f jr c^qw=f m t 1000

Ne he will reside | with him, and he will be provided with a thousand loaves of bread,

Ro 

Ne hnqt ds 100 | jw3 1 j3qt | hrsw 100

Ne a hundred jars of beer, one ox and a hundred bundles of vegetables.'

Ro 

Ne jr.jn.tw mj wḏt nbt ḥm=f w^c m nn hrw ḥpr(.w)

Ne And one did as everything that His Majesty had ordered. One of those days,

Ro 

Ne wn.jn | Rd-ddt ḥr šnt=s qsn mss=s

Ne Ruddjedet was suffering while her labour was difficult.

Ro 

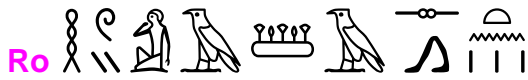
Ne ḏd.jn ḥm n R^c nb Sḥbw

Ne Then the majesty of Re, lord of Sakhbu, said

Ro 

Ne | n ʾst Nbt-ḥwt Mshnt Ḥqt Ḥnmw

Ne | to Isis, Nephthys, Meskhenet, Heqet and Khnum:

Ro 

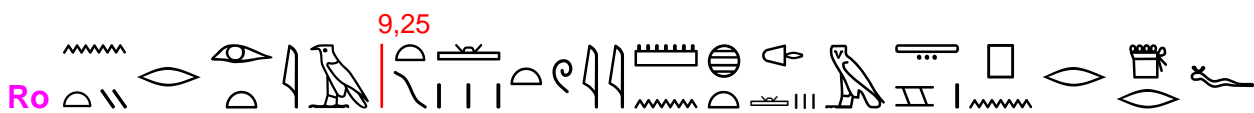
Ne ḥwj ʾ šʾs=tn

Ne 'O may you go

Ro 

Ne slmsy=tn Rd-ddt m pʾ ḥrdw 3 ntj m ḥt=s

Ne and deliver Ruddjedet of the three children who are in her womb,

Ro 


Ne ntj r jrt | ḳlwt twy mnht m tʾ pn r-dr=f

Ne who will perform this magisterial office in this entire land,

Ro 

Ne qd=sn r3w-prw=tn | sdb3y=sn h3wwt=tn

Ne for they will build your temples, | provision your altars,

Ro 


Ne sw3d=sn wd3ww=tn s3ly=sn htpw-ntr=tn

Ne make your libation vessels abundant, and increase your divine offerings.'

Ro 

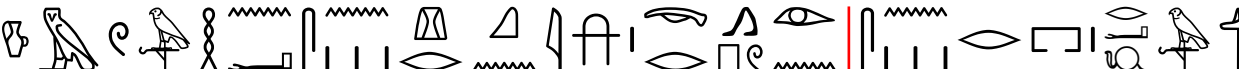
Ne wd3 pw jr.n nn ntrw

Ne Then these gods proceeded,

Ro 

Ne jr.n=sn hprw|=sn m hnyt

Ne after they had changed their appearance into that of musicians,

Ro 

Ne Hnmw hn^c=sn hr qnj spr pw jr.n|=sn r pr R^c-wsr

Ne and Khnum was with them carrying luggage. Then they arrived at the house of Reusre,

Ro 

Ne gm.n=sn sw h^c(.w) d3jw shd(.w)

Ne and found him standing with his kilt upside down.

Ro 

Ne | wn.jn=sn hr ms n=f mnjt=sn shm^w

Ne | Then they presented him with their menits and sistra.

Ro 10,4

Ne ḥ^c.n ḏd.n=f n=sn | ḥnwwt=j mṯn st pw ntt ḥr mn=s

Ne He then said to them: | 'My ladies, look, there is a woman who is suffering,

Ro 10,5

Ne qsn ms=s ḥ^c.n ḏd.nl=sn ḏj=k m³=n sj

Ne for her labour is difficult.' Then they said: 'Let us see her,

Ro 10,6

Ne mk n rḥ.wjn smsj ḥ^c.n ḏd.n=f nl=sn wdḏ

Ne for we are knowledgeable about childbirth.' And he said to | them: 'Come in!'

Ro

Ne ḥ^c pw jr.n=sn tp-m Rd-ḏdt

Ne Then they entered, towards Ruddjedet,

Ro 10,7

Ne | ḥ^c.n ḥtm.n=sn ḥt ḥr=s ḥn^c=sn ḥ^c.n rdj.n sj 3st ḥft-ḥr=s

Ne | and they locked the room with her and them in it. Then Isis placed herself before her,

Ro 10,8

Ne | Nbt-ḥwt ḥ³=s Ḥqt ḥr sh³ḥ mswt

Ne | Nephthys behind her, and Heqet was hastening the birth.

Ro

Ne ḥ^c.n ḏd.n 3st

Ne Then Isis said:

10,9
Ro

10,9
Ne | jm=k wsr m ht=s m rn=k pwy n Wsr=j-r=f¹

10,9
Ne | 'May you not be powerful in her womb, in this name of yours of Userref!'

¹ Historically, this should read Wsr-k³=f, "Userkaf".

10,10
Ro

10,10
Ne w^cr|.jn hrd pn tp ^cwj=sj m hrd n mh 1

Ne And this child rushed into her arms, a baby of one cubit,

10,11
Ro

10,11
Ne rwd qsw=f nhbt | ^cwt=f m nbw

Ne his bones were strong, his limbs were destined to be of gold,

Ro

Ne ^cfnt=f m hsb_d m^{3c}

Ne and his head-cloth of real lapis lazuli.

10,12
Ro

10,12
Ne j^c.jn=sn sw | ^š^cd h_p³=f

Ne And they washed him, after his umbilical cord had been cut,

Ro

Ne rdj hr jfdj m dbt

Ne and he was placed on a couch of brick.

10,13
Ro

10,13
Ne ^ch^c.n ms.n | sj Mshnt r=f ^ch^c.n dd.n=s

Ne Then Meskenet approach him and said:

Ro 10,14

Ne nsw jr.tj=fj nsyt m t3 pn | r-dr=f

Ne 'A king who will perform the kingship in this entire land!'

Ro 10,15

Ne Hnmw hr swd3 h^c w=f rdj.jn sj 3st | hft-lhr=s

Ne And Khnum made his body healthy. Then Isis placed herself before her,

Ro 10,16

Ne Nbt-hwt h3=s Hqt hr sh3h mswt | dd.jn 3st

Ne Nephthys behind her, and Heqet was hastening the birth. | Then Isis said:

Ro

Ro 10,17

Ne jm=k s3h m ht=s m rn=k | pwly n S3hw-R^c

Ne 'May you not kick in her womb, in this name of yours of Sahure!'

Ro

Ro 10,18

Ne w^c.r.jn hrd pn tp ^c wj=sj | m hrd n mh 1

Ne And this child rushed into her arms, | a baby of one cubit,

Ro

Ne rwd qsw=f nhbt ^c wt=f

Ne his bones were strong, his limbs were destined to be (of gold),

Ro

Ne (m nbw) ^{10,19} c^hnt=f m ḥs|bdj m³c

Ne and his head-cloth of real lapis lazuli.

Ro

Ne j^c.jn=sn sw š^cd ḥp³=f

Ne And they washed him, after his umbilical cord had been cut,

Ro

Ne rdj ḥr ^{10,20} | jfdj m dbt

Ne and he was placed on ^{10,20} | a couch of brick.

Ro

Ne ^{10,21} c^h.n ms.n sj Mshnt r=f c^h.n | dd.n=s

Ne Then Meskhenet approach him and ^{10,21} | said:

Ro

Ne nsw jr.tj=fj nsyt m t³ pn r-dr=f

Ne 'A king who will perform the kingship in this entire land!'

Ro

Ne wn.jn Ḥnmw ḥr ^{10,22} | swd³ c^hwt=f

Ne And Khnum made his limbs healthy.

Ro


Ne rdj.jn sj 3st ḥft-ḥr=s

Ne Then Isis placed herself before her,

Ro  10,23

Ne Nbt-ḥwt ḥ³=s | Ḥqt ḥr sh³ḥ mswt dd.jn ³st

Ne Nephthys behind her, | and Heqet was hastening the birth. Then Isis said:

Ro  10,24

Ne jm=k kkw | m ḥt=s m rn=k pwy n Kkw¹

Ne 'May you not stay dark | in her womb, in this name of yours of Keku!'

¹ Historically, this should read K³k³j, "Neferirkare".

Ro  10,25

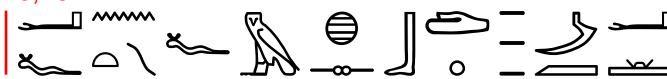
Ne w^r.jn ḥrd pn tp | ^cwj=sj m ḥrd n mh l

Ne And this child rushed into | her arms, a baby of one cubit,

Ro 


Ne rwd qsw=f nhbt ^cwt=f m nbw

Ne his bones were strong, his limbs were destined to be of gold,

Ro  10,26

Ne | ^cfnt=f m ḥsbḍ m³^c

Ne | and his head-cloth of real lapis lazuli.

Ro  11,1

Ne ^{ch}.n ms.n sj Mshnt r=f | ^{ch}.n dd.n=s

Ne Then Meskhenet approach him | and said:

Ro 

Ne nsw jr.tj=fj nsyt m t³ pn r-dr=f

Ne 'A king who will perform the kingship in this entire land!'

Ro 11,2

Ne wn.jn | Hnmw hr swd³ cwt=f

Ne And Khnum made his limbs healthy.

Ro 11,3

Ne j^c.jn=sn sw š^cd | hp³=f

Ne And they washed him, after his umbilical cord had been cut,

Ro 11,4

Ne rdj hr jfdj m dbt prt pw jr.n | nn ntrw

Ne and he was placed on a couch of brick. These gods then went out,

Ro 11,5

Ne sms.n=sn Rd-ddt m p³ hrdw 3 | c^h.n dd.n=sn

Ne having delivered Ruddjedet of the three children, | and they said:

Ro 11,6

Ne ndm jb=k R^c-wsr mk ms n=k | hrdw 3

Ne 'Rejoice, Reusre, for three children have been born to you!'

Ro 11,7


Ne c^h.n dd.n=f n=sn hnwwt=j ptj jrt=j | n|=tn

Ne Then he said to them: 'My ladies, what can I do for | you?'

Ro 11,7

Ne h³ dj=tn p³ jt n p³y=tn hr qnj

Ne Please give this barley to your bearer,

11,8
Ro 

11,8
Ne | jt=tn n=tn sw r swnt tnmw

11,8
Ne | and accept it as a tip.'

11,9
Ro 

11,9
Ne jwhl.jn sw Hnmw m p3 jt

Ne Then Khnum loaded himself with the barley,

11,10
Ro 

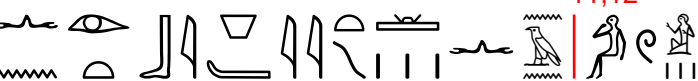
11,10
Ne wd3 pw jr.n=sn r bw | jj.n=sn jm

11,10
Ne and they proceeded to where | they had come from.

11,11
Ro 

11,11
Ne ch^c.n dd.n 3st n nn ntrw ptj n3 | ntt n jj.wjn r=s

11,11
Ne Then Isis said to these gods: 'What is it | that we have come for,

11,12
Ro 


11,12
Ne nn jrt bj3yt n n3 n | hrdw

11,12
Ne if not to perform a wonder for these | children

Ro 

Ne smj=n n p3y=sn jt rdj jwt=n

Ne that we may report to their father who let us come?'

11,13
Ro 

11,13
Ne ch^c.n | ms.n=sn h^cww 3 n nb ^c.w.s.

11,13
Ne Then | they created three lordly crowns (l.p.h.),

Ro 11,14

Ne rdj.jn=sn st m p³ | jt 11,14

Ne and they put them in the | barley. 11,14

Ro

Ne ḥ^c.n rdj.n=sn jwt pt m ḏ^c ḥr ḥwyt

Ne Then they made the sky turn into storm and rain,

Ro 11,15

Ne | ḥ^c.n ḥn.n=sn st r p³ pr ḥ^c.n ḏd.n=sn 11,15

Ne | and they returned to the house. They said: 11,15

Ro 11,16

Ne ḥ³ | dj=tn p³ jt ḥ m ḥt htm.tj 11,16

Ne 'Please put the barley here in a sealed room,

Ro 11,17

Ne r jwt=n | ḥr ḥnt mḥtj 11,17

Ne until we return | from making music in the north.' 11,17

Ro 11,18

Ne ḥ^c.n rdj.n=sn p³ jt m ḥt | htm.tj 11,18

Ne And they put the barley in a sealed room.

Ro 11,19

Ne ḥ^c.n Rd-ḏdt w^cb.n=s m w^cb n hrw 11,19

Ne Then Ruddjedet became pure in a purification of fourteen days. | 14

Ro  11,20


Ne ḥ^c.n ḏd.n=s n wb³t=s jn-jw p³ pr | sspd(.w) 11,20

Ne Then she said to her maid: 'Has the house been prepared?'

Ro  11,21

Ne ḥ^c.n ḏd.n=s jw=f sspd(.w) m bw nb nfr | wpw ḥr hnww 11,21

Ne And she said: 'It has been prepared with every good thing except | for the jars; 11,21

Ro 

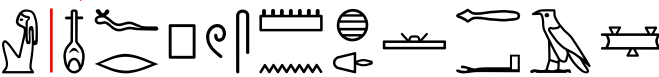
Ne n jn.tw ḥ^c.n ḏd.n Rd-ḏdt

Ne they haven't been brought.' Then Ruddjedet said:

Ro  11,22

Ne tm|tw ms jn hnww ḥr-m | ḥ^c.n ḏd.n t³ wb³t 11,22

Ne 'But why haven't the jars been brought?' And the maid said:

Ro  11,23

Ne | nfr pw smnh 3 11,23

Ne | 'There is nothing for contents here, 11,23

Ro  11,24

Ne wpw ḥr p³ jt n nn | hnyt | jw=f m t^c ḥr htm=sn 11,24

Ne except for the barley of these | musicians, which is in a room under their seal.' 11,24

Ro  11,25

Ne ḥ^c.n ḏd.n | Rd-ḏdt h³ jn jm=f 11,25

Ne Then Ruddjedet said: 'Go down and fetch it from there,

12,4
Ro

12,4
Ne | $\text{ḥ}^c.n \text{ rdj}.n=s \text{ m}^c=s \text{ r p}^3 \text{ ḥ}^3r \quad \text{gm}.n=s \text{ jr}.tw \text{ m-ḥnw}=f$

12,4
Ne | Then she put her ear to the sack, and found it was being done in it.

12,5
Ro

12,5
Ne $\text{ḥ}^c.n \text{ rdj}.n=s \quad | \text{ (sw) r pds rdj m-ḥnw ky ḥtm}$

12,5
Ne Then she put | (it) in a box, which was put in another chest,

Ro

Ne jstnw m dḥr

Ne bound with leather.

12,6
Ro

12,6
Ne $\text{rdj}.n=s \text{ st} \quad | \text{ r }^c\text{t wnnt ḥr ḥnw}=s \quad \text{ḥtm}.n=s \text{ ḥr}=f$

12,6
Ne She put it | in a room containing her belongings, and locked it up.

12,7
Ro

12,7
Ne jwṯ pw jr.n R^c-wsr | m jj m š³

12,7
Ne Then Reusre returned, | coming from the land,

Ro

Ne wn.jn Rd-ddt ḥr wḥm n=f mdt tn

Ne and Ruddjedet recounted this matter to him,

12,8
Ro

12,8
Ne wn.jn | jb=f nfr(.w) r jḥt nbt

Ne and he was exceedingly happy.

Ro

Ne ḥmst pw jr.n=sn ḥr hrw nfr

Ne Then they sat down for a day of celebration.

Ro

Ne ^{12,9} ḥr-m-^{12,9}ḥt hrww sw³(.w) ḥr nn

Ne Now, when some days had passed after this,

Ro

Ne ḥ^c.n šnt₁ Rd-ddt jht n t₃

Ne Ruddjedet had a quarrel with the maid

^{12,10}
^{12,10} wbl₁yt

Ro

Ne rdj.n=s ḥsf.tw n=s m ḥwt

Ne and had her punished with a beating.

Ro

Ne ḥ^c.n dd.n t₃ wbl₁yt

Ne Then the maid said

^{12,11}
^{12,11} | n n³ n rmt₁ ntj m p³ pr

^{12,11}
^{12,11} | to the people in the household:

Ro

Ne jn jr₁rt st n³ r=j jw ms.n=s nsyw

Ne 'Is it done, this, to me? She has given birth to three kings;

Ro

Ne jw=j r šmt dd st n ḥm n nsw-bjtj Ḥwj=f-wj

Ne I'll go and tell this to the majesty of the king of Upper and Lower Egypt Cheops,

Ro 12,13

Ne m³c-hrw šs | pw jr.n=s

Ne justified!' And she went

Ro

Ne gm.n=s sn=s n mwt=s smsw

Ne and found her eldest uncle on her mother's side,

Ro 12,14

Ne hr mr mhj nwt | hr htjw ħ^c.n dd.n=f n=s

Ne binding flax and yarn | on the terrace. And he said to her:

Ro

Ne jr=t r tn jdjt šrt

Ne 'Where are you making off to, little girl?'

Ro 12,15

Ne | wn.jn=s hr wħm n=f mdt tn

Ne | And she recounted this matter to him.

Ro 12,16

Ne ħ^c.n dd.n n=s p³y=s sn jr js | jrt=t p³ jjt tp-jm=j

Ne Then her uncle said to her: 'And what is to be done | is what you do, coming to me,

Ro

Ne jw=j hr sns n wšt

Ne and I should join in the betrayal?'

Ro 12,17

Ne ḥ^c.n ḫl.n=f mhj šj r=s

Ne Then he took a bundle of flax to her

Ro

Ne ḥ^c.n jr.n=f r=s sht bjnt

Ne and administered her a nasty blow.

Ro 12,18

Ne šs pw jr.n t wbjyt r jnt n=s jkn

Ne Then the maid went to get a cup of water for herself,

Ro 12,19

Ne n mw ḥ^c.n jt.n sj msh

Ne and a crocodile snatched her.

Ro 12,20

Ne šs pw jry r dd st n Rd-ddt jn

Ne Her uncle then went to tell this to Ruddjedet,

12,20
| p̄y=s

Ro 12,21

Ne sn gm.n=f Rd-ddt hms.tj tp=s hr

Ne and he found Ruddjedet sitting in grief;

12,21
m̄st=s

Ro

Ne jb=s dw(.w) r jht nbt ḥ^c.n dd.n=f n=s

Ne her mood was exceedingly bad. Then he said to her:

Ro 12,22

Ne ḥnwt=j jrr=t p³ | jb ḥr-m ḥ^c.n dd.n=s

Ne 'My lady, why are you in this mood?' And she said:

Ro

Ne t³ pw ktt ḥprt m p³ pr

Ne 'It's the girl who grew up in this house.'

Ro

Ne mk ms | sj šm.tj r-dd | jw=j r šmt wts=j

Ne Look, | she has gone, saying: "I'll go and betray."

Ro

Ne ḥ^c.n rdj.n=f tp=f | m-ḥrw ḥ^c.n dd.n=f

Ne Then he bent his head | down and said:

Ro

Ne ḥnwt=j ḥn sj jj.tj r dd n=j [...] | jry=s³

Ne 'My lady, in fact she came to tell me [...]' | she might go with me.

Ro

Ne r-gs=j ḥ^c.n jr.n=j n=s sht bjnt

Ne Then I administered her a nasty blow.

Ro

Ne ḥ^c.n=s | šm.tj r jkn n=s nhj n mw

Ne Then she went to draw some water for herself,



Ro

Ne ḥ^c.n jt.n sj msh

Ne and a crocodile snatched her.'
