# Grimble Papers - Part V 

String Figures
Field Notes MS 48p.
Two string figures have been published in H.C. and H.E Maude, String Figures from the Gilbert Islands, 1958:60-63, 65, with acknowledgement, while others were collected independently and published in the same book.
Slang segues

※'Kan-Tabakea
*The noure was probably Nax Tabakea ni' sarkeir days (Nam Dabakea was the fathere of Nave Na Arean $I$ K Karinuoa, the Creator). The change from "Nan" to "Kam" was possibly
made by gemarathon" of childucun who did not huon anytunjs about Tabakea, t at the same time ured the neasculine prefix $i_{2}$ or $T_{\text {un }}$ in daily contersation,it so loot the mean ing of Nan . The substite "Kan" wowld be natinally arnived at by aivalogy wita the names of a begirneng "Kan" Kap ot seng tyunes all
Kan-tabe, Kani", mumnn, Kani-beka, Kan-tang, Kan-nki, $\varepsilon t c$.

Karika-na
(1) Loops on thnu bo
(2) Darble stringo accoss palms and between ning t littee fingens, so that they are stetched ronud winar sides of litte trigens
(3) Pick inp palm strings (dorble) upon opposite indices.
(4) Thumbs praximial to videx tootsp;

Ni Anti:


Mei Auti (Me Pleiads). Given by old men in the maneaba of Makin.

1. Double joum loop (i,eo, make it into a double-stringed loop of half the usual size), and insert the thumbs into it pointing away from you, Iet it hang loosely from the backs of the thumbs.
-.... Pass the little finger of your right hand towards you over the corsal strings of the left thumb. From prominal side insert the littie inger into thumb loop; return to right carrying dorsal thumb strings. Extend.
2. Pass the left little finger between the radial little finger strings and the ulnar thumb strings of the right hand, and under the palmar string from the proximal side; return with this string.
3. Mrom proxinal side pess thumbs into Iittle finger loops, and retum with radial iittle finger strings.
4. From proximal side pick up ulnar thumb strings on the tips of the indices. Extend figure by pressing up thumbs, straightening indices, and tuming palms awaj from Jou.
5. You how have a double string sacsing below the figure from thumb to thumb. Take one of these strin;s and llavairo thumbs.
6. Pass thumbs distal to the string you have just Navaho-ed and proximal to the ulnar index strings. Drop these strings on the backs of the thumbs by releasing the indices from their loops; return thumbs.
7. Repeat 5, 6, and 7 .
8. To extend, repeat 5.

Te Ba-Auriaria (No. 2) Given by Aitintebuaka of Banaba.

1. Wake Te Ba-Auriaria No. 1 , as far as the end of movement 11 .
2. Release indices.
3. Pull the hands gently apart until the loose loops are shortened by about half their length.
4. With indices, from the proximal side pick up the ulnar thumb strings, keeping thumbs well pressed in.
5. Hold down the ulnar little finger string to the palm with the tips of middle and ring fingers.
6. Extend by straightening indices and turning palms away from you.
(N.B. It is necessary to keep the tension on the strings very gentle throughout these two figures. A friend should also stand by to arrange the strings properly when you have extended the figure).
a variation of Meneure 95 (b) Manchana

Te Ba-Auriaria (Auriaria's leaf). Given by Aitintebuaka of Banaba. Seen nowhere else in the Gilbert Group.

1. Opening $A$.
2. Turn each thumb and finger clockwise under its own loop.
3. Pass thumbs distal to midde finger loops and into little finger loops from the proximal side; return with radial little finger strings.
4. Pass indices into thumb loops from the proxinal side; return with ulnar thumb strings.
5. Release thumbs from all strings.
6. Pass thumbs through the proxinal index loops from the distal side, and on into the little finger loops from the proximal side; return with radial little finger strings through the proximal index loops.
7. Release little fingers.
8. Insert little fingers from the distal side into the distal index loops; pull down distal ulnar index strings to the palm; then pass little fingers proximal to the proximal. , index loeps and into the thumb loops from the proximal side. On baeks of little fingers pick up the ulnar thumb strings and return.
9. Release thumbs.
10. Pass thumbs between the distal and proximal index loops, and then into the distal index loops from the distal side; release indices from their distal loops.
11. Pass thumbs distal to index loops and into little finger loops from the proximal side; return with radial little finger strings.
12. From the proximal side pick up on the indices the ulnar thuinb strings.
13. To extend, press thumbs up to hold loose strings, straighten indices, and turn palns away from you.

Throata. (MiRa of Arorae)
Position I
Turn left Thumb cometuclockinise oven and under its own radial stringi thine is now in a loop.
From proxuial side unsent sight index vito thenemb loop and return;
Pass left windex between AUras and radial right wider strings, moment it prom provincial side under right palmar string and $x$ turn o:
Pass right vide between ulxas and radial strings of left windex, wisent pom proximal side ind left palmer staining and exturni Release all fungus of left hand and let the figure tang from right haul; From distal side pass little finger +
of left hand ito distal logs of wight index, and lift it oft, so to st it now hangs lovelyin Position I on left hand; do not Extend the figure;
On the right hand, it will be seen that the radial litter frize string and the ulnar midex string ave cursed. Pass left Thumb fou distal side ito the trinjefe thin formed, and tron orocinal side' into the rider Coop. Release cider and Extend the figure.
Rolevied (themed from radial litter finger string (i. Navaho thumb);

With frigns of right hand lift of left tomb loop, give it a halftime comotesclockiviel replace on therme (what was before the ratal thumb string is nos the ulnar stinging and vice rosa). Repeat this on right hand. From prox. side pass moments ito lit. find. loops, and xtiis sits radial string. From prox. side pass nidices vito tindal bops. and extern witt when than stingo on then tips.
close up to prevent slipping and extend by hiring palais away form you.

Te Roata (the Centipede). Given by Hika of Arorae, aged 40. Universal to Gilbert Islands.

1. Position 1 ;
2. Turn left thumb counterclockwise over and under its own radial string.
3. Thumb is now in a loop; from proximal wide insert right index into this loop, and draw out;
4. Pass left index between ulnar and radial index strings of right hand, and insert it from proximal side under right palmar string; return.
5. Pass right index between ulnar and radial strings of left index, and insert it from proximal side under left palmar string; return.
6. Release all fingers of left hand, letting the figure hang from right hand with palm downward.
7. From distal side pass little finger and thumb of left hand into the distal loop of right index, and lift it off, so that it hange loosely in Position 1 on left hand; do not extend.
8. On right hand it will be seen that the radial little finger string and the ulnar index string are crossed; pass left thumb from distal aide into the triangle thus formed, and then from proximml side into the index loop: iff off this loop and extend.
9. Release left thumb from radinl little finger string heo. Tantheinthumbl:
10. With fingerz of right hand lift off left thumb loop, give it a half turn counterclockwiee and replace it on thumb. Repeat this on right thumb.
11. From proximal side pass thumbs into little finger loops. and return with radial little finger tringe.
12. From proximal side pass indices into thumb loops, and return with uinar thumb stings on their tips. Press thumb up. and extend by turning palms away from you.

Niétrabuake of Rownanàni, Narg ke: Inmakacka. Te etu male Kacko. (about 16 )

1. Opemig A Thimh diot to wier loof pror to e.t loop. Retwen hans both one bach. l.f. Stimig (both) on back of the bo
2. Indices from intintuito all loops of thuts

3. Thun- prox to ak sadial miex of Then infal to ulxar mide ctpe Hito witip lopoo pow in' side, Ratium witk nivar midue loop prox to nadi batie stinjo. Drop all ot je porum midices.
4. Indiees mito turnif loope from ivít. baik of radial then histerie + rethen d- sane hiai retoaswig thumb porn bupo
5. Give rach ivital loop an andices a $\operatorname{Cop}$
clockwine horit. Cast it prox-Cop clockurie turit
6. Thines prom pariai st. Iramoter Retar witt radial st
7. Katera.

Clamn
I

1. Oprming $A$.
2. Thumel dirtal to midere loops and nito l.f-Coops from prosivial side. Returm wite radial l.f. stuig.
3. From distal side on index prick up nlnai thent stinig and $n$ tum on tip of index.
4. Relecase thumbs from all loops.
s. Foom distal side poss thimes though diste index loop and then into lit-f. loops from prox. side. Returin trio. disital videx
5. Poope witt radial lit.f. strijjo,
6. Relense e.f.
7. From dist. side pass l.f. thes dist. index loops a them on mito thenub lospo from prox. side. Return thio dist asid. Cosps inte whan thunl sting.
8. Releace thands.
9. Pass thenints Ferovertordase betiveen dist. awo prox. घindex loopo away prom gou, them frow dist. side ivito dist. uidex loops, which foriofe to thend cand utvin.
10. Pass tivils dit. to enidex loops and firin prox. side inito l.t. loops. Return nita radial z.f.sting.
". Release indices from lowps and gantly separate the hands unti vecsly all the slack is tiken up;
11. Pans isidices prox. to zarinel than-b staji: press thu ses ip to keep slinijs pows slippring and seilend figine by shaightadices and twrunit pal a rey form gan.:
II. Ti na-ni-man.
12. Opining $A_{i}$
13. Grue tact frigg and thumb a tan elockevice indies its loop.
14. Proceed exactly as in I.
III. 1. Opening $A_{i}$
15. Transfer right rider loop to left midex; and left index loop over it to right index;
16. Proceed as in I and gore have the same figure.
IV. 1. Opening $A_{i}$
17. Transit insider loops to ring finger, and thumb loops to middle fuigas.
18. Take ulnar 2n.t. sting between teeth and draw it bon cards rain right the pinite ito
19. Pass of sight thangintustue minter loop anitaionch pick ip night left horta string and poll it oren to night. clean of wight mont hath
20. Pan left the b to night might mons the strij; pick up the sting on bach of left thin b and p. Re le
21. Jrasfer hurst loops to is dices.
22. Repeat 3-5 wite Elias index stingo.
\& Proceed as is I. But misted of Mlesening in I. II, ulease index. mil. f $-\dot{j}$ ant ing fioje from loops.

I．
1．Ohiming $A$ ．
2．Proceed as in II，レーフi
3．Gui sach fingin a clockurie tūn sound $i t s$ and loup；
4：Proceed as in IV．8．

Na Umake (Mr. Umake). Given by Nei Tenamonrenga of Tarawa. Universal throughout Gilbert Islands.
I. With hands about six inches apart, hold string between thumbs and indices, lettine the rest hang free.
2. Make a little loop of the string between your hands, so as to bring your whole string into the shape of the figure 8 , with a very small loop on top and a large one hanging below.
3. Into the small loop insert the indices, pointing away from you; into the large loop insert the thumbs, also pointing away from you. Draw hands apart.
4. From the distal side pass thumbs into index loops; transfer these loops to thumbs by releasine indices.
5. From the distal side pass little fingers into the distal thumb loops; crook little fingers over ulnar string of distal loop, and hold down to palm.
6. From the proximal side pass indices into proximal thumb loops. On tips of indices pick up ulnar strings of proximal loops.
7. To extend, press up thumbs to hold loose strings, straighten indices, and turn palms away from you.


Tinira ni maniba.


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Tenua ni maniba (Three waterholes) Given by Nei Kaintia of Tabit-
euea. Cormon to South Gilberts
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I. Position 1 .
2. From proximal side insert left index under right palmar string and return. Release left thumb and little finger. Bxtend.
3. Transfer left index loop to Position $l$ on thumb and little finger.
4. Repeat 2 and 3 above.
5. From proximal side insert left index under right palmar string and return.
6. Pass right thumb into little finger loop of same hand, from the proximal side; return with radial little finger string.
7. Pass left thumb from distal side into index loop of same hand, transfer loop to thumb and return.
8. From proximal side pass indices into thumb lonp, pick up ulnar thumb strings on tips.
9. Press thumbs close to hold loose strings, straighten indices and extend by turning palms away from you.
Right hand.
10. You now have before you a figure consisting of a central
dianond and an incomplete dianond on either side of it. With the middle finger of the right hand push the ulnar little finger string towards you through the right hand (incornplete) dianond, and hold it between the teeth.
11. Release Iittle finger.
12. Transfer index loop to little finger.
13. Release thumb.
14. Insert thumb from proximal side into little finger loop, then pass it distal to intervening strings towards you, and down into the mouth loop. Then turn thumb to your right under the right nouth string, and release string from teeth.
Left hand.
15. On the left hand are seen two radial thumb strings. Pass the ulnar little finger string towards you between these strines; hold between teeth.
16. Release little finger.
17. Transfer to the little finger the loop over thumb and index.
18. With thumb and forefinger of right hand remove the remaining thumb 2000 and hold it in position, while the thumb is inserted from the proximal slde into the little finger loop; then replace the thumb 1000 .
19. Release mouth string.

Both hands.
20. From the proximal side pick up the ulnar thumb strings on the indices. Keep thumbs pressed up to hold loose strings, and extend figure by straightening indices and turning away palms.

Kani mumun (Flight of the vanquished). Given by Ten Toakai of Maiana; widely distributed through northern Gilberts.

1. Opening A.
2. Transfer index loops to wrists.
3. Pass indices through little finger loops from distal side, then on into thumb loops, also from distal side; on tips of indices pick up ulnar thumb strings and return with these through the little finger loops.
4. Release thumbs, and then transfer index loops to thumbs.
5. Transfer wrist loops to Position 1 on thumbs and little fingers.
6. Repeat movement 3 above.
7. Release little fingers.
8. From distal side pass little fingers into index loops, lift them off and return.
9. There is now seen to be a middle string running across the figure parallel to the ulnar little finger string. This middle string forms the base of four small triangles, whose apices depend upon the ulnar little finger string. Into the right and left of these triangles insert the rieht and left indices, from the distal side; pick up the middle string on their tips.
10. Extend by straightening indices and releasing thumbs.


Te Karau-a +
Kanraure

(2)
(3) lelt hauld betricew bodes stumo - ducivr acios
ught hand ptrerg

(3) $A$ trivaids hods wis sunuld loopo I nehowis
(b) Brupt trapo to Runctos
 radial LF tingo to : indico to pumeals itongo
Dhedich frox eude nito T Iropo a lele
uha It on tyo of indica
(a) thaugtin inaios ex
(4) Ins vayer quanto is


figuneer times iches up MLF skung, which asees he
dowal
cwat apuef of hal $D$ th

III

with Rad. L,F stranj;
(2) Indices mito T. loops from prox. Side, O 2 baiks of vidice piek up neman Trten Staighlen nidices: press liuin us;

- Excend by tirming palues auray.

Naumake te KaraRo
IV.(1) Sscon player holds figene palmen outivan friges if towais first blayer,



 towards him the da ble stin jo forming
the outen strobier of tay W. Winge:
(4) Withhow fighe pou haiss I
:(5) Indice porm prox.into Telogs. fill op aluaw Tr thigo. Tres : up theuis. Sce.. ว ty stanget
(3) Tnuilis oves doulele strunce whede prow dosal
(4) 7uist player drop all stinjg, + secoud player extend by parany sidices from prox. vito tiant loops if lifting routhe wlaser T Strige, pressing tiunts op, + tirni, palu ontwait.

Butimata.
(1) There is a lange curtial triangle on base of bottan stinig, flanked by two mivented triaugler; pass litte frigens mito vivented triangle + crook thene towais sach other round side stunjs of cental triangle.
(2) Thumbs mito cental triangee: on back take up basal sting of figure: tirit timets of (under this sting) towaiss yon. This buing pabus opposite inth all frigen pounting
(3) Thining prom prox. into L.F loops. Retionn with radial L.F. stin
(4) Indices form prox sitito thund trop
on porits take up ulnan T. Stinueg, Puss up $T_{\text {: staighten endices: turn palus }}$ away Kamibikou de rang.
(4) 2nd Presew'́n pèse paim alownw gobs don aseel
 tahres wo mo twuins phrig Pascury
(3) $2^{\text {no }}$ playen releases figere. DI playen ketunds.
(4) Tuuns produ proxi wito L,F. Poops, viuun wite rad. L,F dt-
(5) Indices mito $T$. loops pom praxe. Rik up whar T tinjo on tifs: shaighton eidice: prese of themes: Eum falenaway.

Naumake te Abake
(1). There is on wivented triangh mi middle of figure. Under the porinit where doutle ride strings of the triangel pass oven top string of tigure, micert litte frigen + passung owe top stinig.
(2) On back of theons take up double side dinis of cental triangle.
(3) Remove poin fint playu's haus $t$ Extend
$\qquad$ (8) Sndui nits itumbe lomot taku up wha

stming hang un as dowble loos cangl' ws af
 pull. C them tow sidf of midedle han
(1) IIEP passes lithe firigen towans $2^{\text {ne }}$ player under hanging dontloty, then oven there 2owte stimg towasis him, then oven top stru of figure tow ards $2^{\text {n3 }}$ peayen, and finally undsr top stany again tivanos kimedf.
(2) There is now a donble therg hane the towaris $2^{-2}$-playen on Either side of there th jp and on back of themis pick up fottom thing: He then hinis thuns ip under thics shig townis him +
 inth radial L.F shem
(4) Invices foun proxi wits T.looto. Pik up nenar T. striji. Pres of $T$. Stayituru lid. Turn away polms


This game is for two persons, preferably in the Gilberts a man and a woman, each of whom opens with one hand. The players sit facing each other.

I, 1 . Opening $\Delta$ is made on the right hand of the man and the left hand of the woman.

The movements now to be described will be those made by the player who has opened With the right hand. The movements of his partner are exactly similar, but are made with the opposite hand.
2. From proximal side insert free left hand through the index loop; pass left little finger from distal side into right little finger loop, and pick up ulnar string.
3. Withdraw right hand from all its loops, and carry figure away to the left.


11, 1. Pass right little finger proximal to all strings, and then into Wrist loop of left hand from the distal side. Pick up ulnar wrist surfing, and pull it over to right proximal to all strings.
2. Pass right thumb from distal side into little finger loop; pick up ulnar mimer string.
3. Withdraw left hand from all its strings and carry figure away to the right.


III, 1. Figure is now on your right hand. Pass right thumb from proximal side into the little finger loop; return with radial little finger
string.
2. Pass right index from proximal side into thumb loop; pick up ulnar string on tip of index. Press thumbs up to index to prevent strings from slipping; extend figure by straightening index, and
turning palm towards! the left.
3. A double string is now seen to say loosely from the middle of the ulnar index string to the thumbs of the players. Pass the little finger of your free left hand between this loose string (at your end) and the index string; from the proximal side pick up the ulnar little finger string, and return to the left.
4. Pass the left thumb proximal to the right index string, and lift it off the index. Release right thumb and carry figure over to the left.


IV, 1. On your left hand repeat the movements described in III, 1 and 2 - above.
2. Keeping the figure extended, make a counter-clockwise sweep there a circle with your left hand and forearm (your partner will perform it clockwise with his right), so that the hand is brought palm upwards before your body.


V, 1. There are two corner triangles at your end of the figure, up against the radial side of your hand. Into the left hand corner plunge the thumb of your free right hand; into the right hand comer pass the little finger, pointing downwards.

Now push your right hand away from you towards your partner, scooping all intermediate strings with little finger and thumb towards the middle. Your partner does the same with his left; you interlace your fingers with his in the centre, keeping yours on the ulnar side of those which correspond on his hand. Close hands palm to palm.
2. Withdraw your left hand from all strings, and let them fall loose. Your partner does not release his right hand.
3. Drawn tight from the back of jour partner's left hand you will now see a string between index and thumb and one between his litimbinalif tie finger and ring finger. Turn half right so that you are able to point your left hand in
3.
the same direction as his; pass little finger and thumb down between the strings mentioned, and pick up his thumb string on your thumb and his little finger string on your little finger, from proximal side (below).
4. Your partner now releases both hands, and you extend the strings on yours.
5. Pass thumbs from proximal side into little finger loop; retum with radial little finger string. Pass indices from proximal side into thumb loops, and pick up ulnar strings on tips. Press thumbs up to prevent loose strings Irom slipping, and extend by straightening indices and tuming palms away from you.


VI, 1. In the figure you have made there are two small triangles at the midale. Your parther takes the strings forming the outer sides of these triangles (marked $A$, A in figure) between fingers and thumbs, and pulis them right and left towards your hands.
2. Drop your index and thumb loops; present your thumbs at partner: he putis the strings he holds over them. Pull strings tight.
3. There is how a loop caucht up on each palmar string. Your parther takes the strings of these loops that are on his side of the ficure, and puts them over your thumbs.
4. Pass indices proximal to ulnar thumb strings and pick these up on tips of indices. Press up thumbs to hold loose strings, straighten indices and turn palms away from you. The figure has not jet appeared.
5. Turn Ieft hand down (palm downwards) clockwise, and right hand up (palm HErumiturall ) counter-clockwise, and the figure will appear.
6. Display the figure by bringing jour left palm against your stomach, and carrying jour right hand palm downerds straight in front of jou.


VII, 1. In the figure jou have extended towards your partner are three interior diamonds and eight exterior triancles, the latter based upon the top and bottoll strings.

Your partner turns his palms towards Jou, with thumbs outwatd and fingers pointing down. From asove, into the two triancles up against your right hand, he plunges his little fingers. Into the next pair away from him, also from above, he passes his thumbs. He pushes his thumbs onwards under the intermediate central diamond and upwards again into the third pair of triangles away from him. His little fingens he passes from below upwards into the last pair of triangles against your left hand.
2. Release both your hands from all strings, and Iet jour partner extend figure on his thumbs and little fingers.


VIII, 1. Reeping the fisure extended, Jour partner presents at you the back of his right hand. From the proximal side pass your little fingens into his little finger and thumb loops four richt to his MHMMsHMEI little finger, your left to his thumb).
2. Crook your right little finger round his ulnar little finger string, and your left littile finger round his radial thumb string, and lift loops off his right hand.
3. Your parther now proceeds to hold his ond of the figure exactiy as you are holdin's yours. Extend botween you, palins upward.
4. Pass indices from the over side down into the corner triangles of the figure, then on under intervening strinjs into the central diamond. Crook right fincer round right side strincis of aiamona and lert finger round loft side strings, at your end; jour partner does the same at his end.
5. Release little finjens, and extend fleure on indices.
6. Transfer index loops to littio fingers, in same position as pefore.
7. Movenents 4, 5, and 6 are to be made ten times in succession, both

8. Now You reverse, Jass thumbs into 1 ittlo finger Ioops from the proxinal side, take up loops on backs of thumbs, and release 1ittie
9. From proxinel side pass indices into thumb loops, then on aistal to diamond strings. Crook right index round right aide strings of diamond, and left index round left side strincs. Pull these strings proximal to thumb loops, and release thumbs.
10. Transfer index loops to thumbs, by pasping thumbs freom the under
side up into index loops, and releasing indices.
11. Movements 8 and 9 axe also to be made ten times in succession, both partnens intoning aloud, "保, "One oki-ca, return-our, $\frac{u a-o k i}{\text { two-retunns, }}$

12. To finish the game. You will see that the figure jou hold consists of an upper and a lower layer of strings. Drop your left thumb loop, and let strings hang irom your right thumb (partner's left). Carefully pick out on your right thumb the loop which belongs to the distal layer of strings; pass all fingers Firimy
 side and carmy it to Ieft. Figure No. 6 will reappear, how held by two persons. Both partners cry aloud together, "S oti-0-0!" ("It appears-0-0!").

Kawai-n IVei Iku (Ivei Iku's way of doing it). Given by Nei Kaintia of Tabiteuea and Beru. Common in South Gilberts.

1. Opening A.
2. Release right index and extend.
3. From the distal side insert right index into index loop of left hand and lift it off; return with this loop on right index. You will see that it catches up the palmar string of the left hand: do not allow the palmar string to be extended more than four inches from the left palm.

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4. Give each loop on right hand a twist by turning little finger and index loops clockwise, and thumb counterclockwise, under their loops
5. Transfer thumb loop to index.
6. Pass thumb from distal side through proximal index loop, and on into little finger loop from the proximal side; return with radial little finger string through the proximal index loop.
7. Release little finger.
8. Transfer distal index loop to thumb.
9. Pass indices towards you, distal to distal thumb loops, and then into proximal thumb loops from the distal side; return with radial string of proximal thumb loop distal to distal loop, at the same time releasing thumb from proxinal loop.
10. Repeat 8 and 9 .
11. Transfer distal index loop to thumb.
12. Twist thumb counterclockwise under its loops.
13. From distal side push radial index string through thumb loops, and hold in teeth.
14. Pass ulnar index string towards you distal to thumb loops, and also hold in teeth, at the same time releasing index.
15. Transfer thumb loops to little finger and mouth loops to thumb.

Left hand.
16. On the left hand are a thumb loop and a little finger loop. From the distal side, between thumb and index of right hand, pinch together the ulnar thumb string and the radial little finger string. Lift off the left thumb and little finger loops, letting them hang respectively on the thumb and index of the richt hand.
17. From the prozimal side, nass your left little finger into the new hanging thumb loop; lift it off.
18. Insert thumb from proximal side into little finger loop, so that it is in Position 1 on left hand.
19. From distal side pass thumb into hanging loop on right index; lift it off and extend plifithd strings by separating hands.
20. To extend figure: Pass index of right hand into little finger loop from distal side, and pick up from proximal side the double string dividing it from thumb loop. Pass index of lert hand proximal to ulnar thumb string, and pick up. Keep left thumb pressed up to hold loose strings; release right thumb, and straighten indices, turning palms away from you.

1. Mouth loop;
2. Insert right hand towards you into mouth loop; pass it to left between your body and the left mouth string; pick up this string on the back of right wrist, and return to right so that it is clear of the right mouth string.
3. Pass left hand between your body and the right mouth string; return to left with strine on back of left wrist.
4. Insert both little fingers towards you into mouth Joophi.e., above the point where the right and left mouth string cross each other).
5. Drop string from mouth and extend.
6. From distal side pass mouth through little finger loops, and between the teeth pick up ulnar wrist string; pull this towards you through little finger loops.
7. Pass right thumb to left, distal to new mouth loop; then from proximal side into mouth loop. On back of thumb picl: up left mouth string and return to right so that it clears right mouth string.
8. Pass left thumb to right distal to right mouth string; then from the proximal side pick up this string on the back of the thumb, and return to left.
9. Drop mouth string and extend figure.
10. Transfer wrist loops to middle fingers.
11. Pass thumbs distal to middle finger loops, and into little finger loops from the proximal side; return with radial little finger strings.
12. Pass indices into thumb loops from proxinal side, and pick up ulnar thumb strings on their tips.
13. Press up thumb to hold loose strings, straighten indices, and extend figure by turning palms away from you.
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Te katel-maneaba (The puilding of the meeting-house). Univensal throuchout Gilberts.
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1. Two plajers sit facing each other, each with his separate string.
Joth make opening A.
2. First player passes both hands with strings extended from hitanther side throuch his parther's index Ioops.
3. Second player drops his index loops across dorsal aspect of Rirst piayox's wrists.
4. Finst player withanaws his hands, carrying partinor's index loope
on his wrists.
5. Second player pass both hands with strings extendod from distal side into parther's index Ioops.
6. First player drops his index loops across dorsal aspect of second
playerts wrists.
7. Second player withdraws his hands, carrying partner's index loops
on his wrists.
8. Finst player releases his hands from a.ll strings, which he then takes and winds several tines round the second plajer's figure.
Q. Second player gives partner his richt mHi littie finger loop to hold in richt hand, and his thumb loop to hold in left hand. hand.
9. Parthers now work the strings back and forth between then; pradually the tangle in the middle disperses and at last the ground
plan of the maneaba appears.

Te Roata (the Centipede). Given by Mika of Arorae, aged 40. Universal to Gilbert Islands.

1. Position 1 ;
2. Turn left thumb counterclockwise over and under its own radial string.
3. Thumb is now in a loop; from proximal side insert right index into this loop, and draw out;
4. Pass left index between ulnar and radial index strings of right hand, and insert it from proximal side under right palmar string; return.
5. Pass right index between ulnar and radial strings of left index, and insert it from proximal side under left palmar string; return.
6. Release all fingers of left hand, lettine the figure hang from right hand with palm downard.
7. From distal side pass little finger and thumb of left hand into the distal loop of right index, and lift it off, so that it hangs loosely in Position 1 on left hand; do not extend.
8. On right hand it will be seen that the radial little finger string and the ulnar index string are crassed; pass left thumb from distal side into the triangle thus formed, and then from proximal side into the index loop; lift off this loop and extend.
9. Release left thumb from radial little finger string (i.e., Navaho thumb).
10. With fingers of right hand lift off left thumb loop, eive it a half turn counterclockrise and replace it on thumb. Repeat this on right thumb.
11. From proximal side pass thumbs into littie finger loops, and return with radial little finger strings.
12. From proximal side pass indices into thumb loops, and return with ulnar thumb strings on their tips. Press thumbs up, and extend by turnine palms away from you.


N

Catscradles.
Na Ilmake. Guin by Ni Tenamonerenga of Jarauna: learned by her at Nikunan.

Take about six niches of staining between thumbs and midices allowing the rust of the string to hang downs. Make a sinall loop by buniqing left hand towards yon and $t_{0}$ the sight. This bung the whole string roughly mit the shape of the figure sight, with a large loop below and a small loop above. thus:-


Into the small loop wisent the indices. pointing unsay from you, and vito the longe bop wisent the kurt, also pointing away. Draw hands apart, turning the padus up.
Into the index loops unsent the three free fingers of Each hand, from the proximal side.
Close finger on the radial index string (which bes across then palmar aspect), thurs holding it dorm.
Pick up the dorsal strung on the track es of the thumbs, and retain.
Theeping thun sb close prised to the laces of the usidices, pick up the ulnar Thun string on the tip of the indices. Straighter indices and extend by turning palms
away four jos.

Catscradles.
Nensuri ; Giuri by Mi Kamarawa of Banaba, $^{\text {Kina }}$ (Taburwa village). Common also in Gilbert Island.

Opening $A$.
Pass thumbs proximal to midex tops and ito lithe frigg loots from proximal side. Pick up p ulnar little frozen string on back of thumb and xtinn, at same tine casting oft li ste fingice loops. There ane now 2 loops on sack thana.

With tip of middle lunger push radial midex sting of night hand thinongh the thant looks from distal side; hold between teeth.

Now pass minor midex string distal to thumb loops and hold between teeth. Release midex. Transfer thing loops to lithe friar and month loops to thumb.

Repeat for left hand.
The radial little finger strings are now found to be caught int by lop which the $l$ it end the finmbs. the sffect is that The lithe frigus one in triangles of string. Pass midices ito these triangles from the distal side and pick up radial lite tiger string near the middle of the figure. Release Thumbs and extend.

Satscradles. Jabitemea (Nsi Kainita, aged 35)
/1/aisai-n Nrii Sku
(3) Bpiéning $A$.
(2) Rileace right midex and extend.
3. The left nidex in now in a triangle formed by it radial + Mlinar string and the Poliman string which enus aciors them. Sisent the right inidex in to thi: triangle for the thistal side, tanster left midex
wis loop to right midex and uturn. wether lesp
(7) Give rach toop indmian on sight hand a terit by turning littee friges and mitex elockwise anen ustuhush aind thumb comitactocteriven undes thein
 Thmunt from distal side thangh proximal midex loop, then from proxevial side mito lit fungen loop: return isth radial lit. fugen string through proxivial videx loop. Rileace lit.fugis
(6) Jramiter distal vindix looptio tanul.

Close fuijess on all strings except iadial sting of proxemial thaneb loopi pass videx proxu
to thes. stanig, and seturm with it, at the To the stang, and estern proximial loop fom thand
(8) Repeat (6) divital nindex loop to tinm\%.
(9) Juvit themme comntendock wise under. it is loops.
(10) From distal side push radial unvinuigion stanj though tanne loops and hoed sin teoth.
(ii) Pars in mas hibuipunger string distal to Mundex loops and also hold sis teeto; , Heace midupuys.
(12) Jransfer thund loops to lit. fugges and mouthe loops to thanab.
(13) Ore left haud are a thenmb loop and a
lit. fingu loop: Betwou tanile aind inder $x$ of right hand prick togethen wemon them shing and radial lit fingel stinig. bifte Thinn $b$ and litte fingu loops. letting them, hang uspectivily on the thand buid iniblex of right hand.
Pass left little frigen from proxinial side mite the new thand loop.
Move left hand awray from jon so that the radial little frigh struig is pulled over the tip of the right midex. /mpent thamb sito two new midex loops from distat vide. Extend.

Index of right band prom distal side ind litte frigar triaugle. From proxizial side on tip of ciodex pich iop the dowbe. Stivig wher divides lit finger tiangle from thenueb tivingle.
Inders of left hand proxmial to radial tinum stinig. Qxtend by stanghtaning hidices ant Kesp left. thuno w wile prosed up to firwent strinjs form slipp-if: icleace
inght to inno. inght the momb.
Extend by straighter.ig ridides end hinmis palmes avary from gon. (Proto taken)

Kawai-n Nei Iku (Jei Iku's way of doing it). Given by Nei Kaintia of Tabiteuea and Beru. Common in South Gilberts.

1. Opening A.
2. Release right index and extend.
3. From the diatal side insert right index into index lnop of left hand and lift it off; return with this loop on right index. Yous will see that it catches up the palmar string of the lef's hand: do not allow the palmar string to be extended more than four inches from the left palm.

違ght hand.
4. Give each loop on right hand a twist by turning iittle Pinger and index loops clockwise. and thumio counterclockwise, under their loops
5. Transfer thumb loop to index.
6. Pass thumb from distal side through proximal index loop, and on into little finger loop from the proximil side; return with radial little finger string through the proximal index loop.
7. Release little finger.
8. Transfer distal index 1000 so thumb.
9. Pass indices towards you, distal to dietal thumb $100 p s$, and then into proximal thumb loops from the distal side; return with radial string of proximal thumb loop distal to distal loop, at the same time rel easing thumb from proximal loop.
10. Repeat 8 and 9 .
11. Transfer distral index 200 p to thumb.
12. Iwist thuab counterclockwise under its 100 ps.
13. From distal side push radial index string through thumb loops, and hold in teeth.
14. Pass ulnar index string towards you distal to thumb loopg, and also hold in teeth, at the same time releasing incex.
15. Fransfer thumb loops to little inger and mouth loops to thumb.

## Left hand.

16. On the left hand are thumb loop and a little inger loop. From the distal side. between thumb and index of rieht hand, pinch tog* ether the ulnar thumb string and the radial little finger siring. Lift off the left thumb and little finger loops, letting them hang respectively on the thumb and index of the right hand.
17. From the proximal side, nass your left little finger into the new hanging thumb loopi lift it off.
18. Insert thumb iroin proximal side into little inger loop, so that it is in Position 1 on left hand.
19. Jrom distal side pass thumb into hanging loop on right index; lift it off and extend rifubbi stxings by separating hands.
20. To extend ixgure: Pass index of right hand into little finger loop from distal sido, and pick up from proximal side the double string diffiding it from thumb 200 p. Pass index of left hand proximal to vinar thumb strinE. and pick up. Keep left thumb pressed up to hold loose gitings; release right thumb, and straighten indicen. turning palme awey from you.
21. Opening A. Cast off right indox loop.
22. Pass right thumb from proximal side into little finger loop; return ith radial little finger string.
23. Pass index (right) from proximal side into thumb loop; pick up ulnar thumb string on index, and release thumb from ail strings. Transfer index loop to thumb.
24. Pass right littie finger from proximal side into thumb loop; return with ulnar thumb string.
25. Pass right index from proximal side into little finger loop; pick up radial litile finger string on index, and release the little finger from all strings. Transfer index loop to littie finger.
26. Turn the thumb (right) clockwise and the little finger (right) counterclockwise around its own loop.
27. Insert right index into left index loop from the distal side; lift off this loop on the right index and return, pulling it over the left palmar string.
28. Pass right thumb into the index loop from the proximal side; return with radial index string.
29. Pass right index from proximal side into thumb loop; pick up ulnar thumb string on tip of index, and release thumb from all strings.
30. Transfor distal index loop to thumb.
31. Pass right little finger from proximal side into index loop; return with uanar index string:
32. Pass right index from proximal side into little finger loop; pick up radial litile finger string, and release little finger from ail strings.
33. Transfer distal index loop to littie finger.
34. Drop the loop from the right index; gently separate the hands, but do not dxaw the loose strings quite tight.
35. Pass indices of both hands from the distal side into thumb loops; pick up radial thumb strings on indices, and release thumbs from the loops.
36. Pass thumbs proximal to index loops and into little finger loops from proximal side; return with radial little finger strings proximal to index loops.
37. Transfer index loops to thumbs.
38. Pass indices from proximal side into thumb loops; on their tips pick up ulnar thumb strings. Bxtend the ficure by pressing up thumbs to prevent loose strings from slipping, straightening indices, and turning palns away from you.
[^0]Catscradles.
NaUbwebwi. Givo by Nis Jinamonrenga of Jarawa; leasmed by her at Nithunan; sirm olso ot Jasamon.

Take string beturim treth so that it hangs is a loop from sight and left conners of mosoth.
tusent right hand towards gon nito the loopi with back of wrist pick up left mouth stining, and urtiorn.

Insent left hand betwsun joun lody and right month string; pick inp this string on rack of left wnist, asd nettorm.

Twist both hainds clockwise, fancong gone.
tresent left litte finger foutitands gon mito mouth loop; pick up eufightut monthsting erook back of lithe friger.

Pick up bejfin mointh string an boik of right litte fingen: slease string from month: Extend.
Iransfer wnit loops to thinubs.
Pass thembstimnoximal sideto litte finger loopo Ke frige storiger $x$ turn with radial l.t.strigs. Kriping thounts cloce prosed to baces of indices, pick rop whar thumb strings on tips of indices. Exterd by straightenning nilices, asod turning palnos anowy fross jos.

Catscradles.
h describing Gibutere catscradles, stencotype the openning made by letting string hang from right and left cormen of monte, unden the name of Month opening.
2. Note mi text the moverments which Reem to be typrical of Gilbentise Catscuadles:-
(a) The Extensoin of a figme is nittected gerat ry pickionity of cases sffected by pricking in on nadial thimb string on tip of * ridex and turnling palme
(b) Dypridal also of the sxten zori: it the prosinix of thand to anis, to privent toose strings from slipp ing.

Catscíadles. Banaba.
When making sing figures together, the Banabian ehnedrem played a game of guesomig. One of them ironed begin matenig a figure, holding the hands concealed behind a tree or some other object; while bur with hit (or hen) frigcos, the child would intone
"Tune. June!
Jane, Jane!
Jiaki Kairma-u ba
Kairua-r antai?
June, June!
Jane, Jane!
Not my mistake, whose mistake?

The others were supposed then to guess what figure was being made by the speaker. One would answer, say,
"Kairna-xe Namlurebwe!" The mistake of Nauburebue,
the word Nainbwebure being the name of a particular figure be the the figure did not happen to be the one named with the words.
"I a maminga!" He (o rshe) has givessel inorg,
and would then nome the figure made. If the guess was conceit, the maker wormed say "Aringaia saba"
 जाए को aloncta meaning "That's right", and the turm to sett the probke rivivex shew has to the one whis guesied coristly.l


Kabaebaea barara (Catch the kingfish). Given by Aitintebuaka of Tabiang village, Banaba. Common to all the Gilbert Is.lands.

1. With hands about a foot apart and pointins away from you, let loop hang loosely over backs of thumbs.
2. Pass little finger of right hand towards you over the dorsal thumb string; pick string up on back of little finger and return. Bxtend.
3. From proximal side pick up right palmar string on back of left iittie fincer, and return, betweren whar thumb string and radial little fungen shing.
4. From proximal side pass thumbs into little finger loops; return with radial little finger strings.
5. Pass indices into thumb lnops from proximal side; on tips pick up ulnar thumb strings.
6. Extend by pressing up thumbs to hold loose strings, straightening indices and turning palms away from you.
7. A radial thumb string now sags loosely down, on your side of the figure. A friend sitting opposite you pulls this string towards him, and passing his free hand under it, introduces the hand into the middle triangle of the figure.
8. You work the figure to and fro with a sawing movement across your friends wrist, and intone these words -

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { Na kabae-a, ke } \begin{array}{c}
\text { na na } \\
\text { I shail catch-it, or } \\
\text { I shall release-it? }
\end{array}
\end{aligned}
$$

If he answers, "Kabae-a (catch it)", cast off left hand and ferk strings to right; if the answer is "Kakom-a (release it)", cast off right and jerk left.

Na Tunikun i-nano (Na Tunikun down below). Given by Wei Kaintia of Tabiteuea.

1. Make Kabaebaea baara(No . . .).
2. As the figure stands before you, a loose string sags radial y from thumb to thumb. Lift this string over the tips of the thumbs, so that it lies across their palmar aspect (ie., Navaho thumbs). Extend figure.
3. Pass thumbs from distal side into index loops; on their dorsal aspect pick up ulnar index strings and return; release indices.
proximal to ulnae then el strums.
4. Pass indices er ever
 Howabuturiagu. and pick then up on $t i p$ of indices.
5. To extend, press thumbs up to hold loose strings, straighten indices, and turn palms away from you.


Na Punikun i-eta (Mr. Tunikun on top) Given by Nei Kaintia of Beru and Tabiteuea. Universal through Gilberts.

1. Make Na Tunisun i-nano.
2. In the top right and left corners of the figure are triangles enclosed in a dimanuil thumb string, an ulnar index string and the radial side of the wame index.
3. Pass the mouth through the top right triangle, pick up between teeth the ulnar little finger string, and return through triangle, at the sane time releasing little finger.
4. Transfer index loop to little finger.
5. Release thumb(right).
6. Froin proximal side insert right thumb into little finger loop.
7. A couble string divides little finger loop from mouth loop; With back of thumb from distal side press down this double string, and then pass thumb to right under the right mouth string.
8. Release mouth loop.
9. Repeat $3,4,5,6,7$, and 8 on left hand.
10. Pass indices from proximal side into thumb loops. On tips pick up ulnar thumb strings.
11. Extend by pressing up thumbs, straightening indices, and turning paims away from you.


Kawai-n ana maniba Na Akinran (Pathway of his well Na Akinran) Given by Kabaua of Tabiang village, Beru Island. Seen also on the island of Tabiteuea.

1. Opening $A$.
2. Pass thumbs distal to middle finger loons and from proximal side into little finger loops; return with radial little finger strings.
3. Pass indices from proximal side into thumb loops and return with ulnar thumb strings.
4. Rel ease thumbs.
5. Fron distal side pass thumbs through proximal index loops, then on into little finger loops from proxinal side; return with radial little finger strings through the proximal index loop.
6. Release little fingers.
thrazh
7. From distal side pass little fingers Hizid distal index loops, then proximal to proximal index loops, and from proximal side into the thumb loops; return with ulnar thumb strings through the distal index loops.
8. Release thumbs.
9. Pass thumbs between distal and proximal index loops; then distal to ulnar string of distal index loop; return thumbs with these strings, at the same time releasing indices from distal loops.

## index

10. Pass thumbs distal to KसHस finger loops from the proximal side; return with radial little finger strings.
11. From proximal side pass indices into thumb loops; on tips of indices pick up ulnar thumb strings; straighten indices, press up thumbs to hold loose strings, and turn palms away from you.
I. Namakaina (Moon). Universal throughout the Gilbert Islands, but called Taai (Sun) in some islands. Given by Na Aiti-n-te-buaka of Banaba, aged about 65 .

Compare with this figure that of the same name recorded by Ifiss Haddon from Central Africa, "Cats" cradles from many lands", p. 31. Though the centra? African method is somewhat different, the result arrived at is very nearly identical with the Gilbortese; the additional similarity of names is strikingly sugcestive of a comnon source of distribution.

1. Take string betweon the teeth, so that the loop hangs dow from the corners of the mouth;
2. Pass right hand towards you into the mouth loop; on its dorsal aspect take up the left mouth string, and return to right;
3. Pass left hand between your body and the right mouth string; return left with this string on back of hand;
4. Put little fingers of both hands towards you into the mouth loop, crooking the right round the right string and the left round the left string; release loop from mouth, and pull apart by returnine hands right and left;
5. From proximal side take ulnar little finger string between teeth and pull towards you;
6. Pass right thumb distal to mouth loop, and on its dorsal aspect pick up left mouth string; pull this string to the right so that it is clear of right mouth string;
7. Pass left thumb distal to right mouth string, picking up the latter on dorsal aspect of thumb;
8. Release mouth loop and extend strings;
9. From proximal side insert thumbs into little finger loops, and return with radial little finger strings;
10. From proximal side with indices pick up ulnar thumb strines; straighten indices, at the same time releasing thumbs and little fingers, and drawing the hands gently apart. IXclaim, as the figure appears, "Namakaina! Namakaina! (Moon!Moon!)".


Nineuri. (Gwen by Nil Kamarawa of Jabiang village, Banaba, aged about 55. Common thanghout Gilbert group.)

1. Opening $A$.
2. Thumbs proximal to midex loops, and ito little finger loops from proximal side. With backs of thumbs press down whenas lithe firigen strings, and return proximal to midex loops, at same tune xleasing lithe firigensfom then loops.
3. On each hand separately: with tip of middle finer push the radial midex string, from distal side, through the double thumb loop, and hold it between teeth. Now pass whenas index string towards jon, distal to thumb loops, and also hold between teeth. Transfer thumb loops to line furiger, and months loops to tunnel.
4. Release index loops.
5. Pass notices from distal side into lithe finger loops and on their tips pick $n$ p double middle--stings of figure. Straighter indices, and extend by releasing thumbs and turning hands away.

Qtruàba uruàba
Rrua nanion urua namon
Ko na mamaakau-sa el?
Ko va mamaakan akawa ee!
2a es?
ui Korokarave!
sa ee?
$u$ iribana!

- a ee?
- in tai ee!

Eruàba usiaba
Ilrua nanon, unna namon..
Aruik si strized cirte sud of coconnt leat and a biece of a young pandann leaf. This stirer is taken home by person and accompanes himi whereven he goes.

Te R1 ni kue (the bone of the porpoise). From Beru Island; given by Nei Beira of Teteirio village. Also seen on Tabiteuea, Nikunau, Arorae and Onotoa, all islands of the southern half of the Gilbert Group. Sought but not found in the northern isiands.

1. Mouth 100p;
2. Right hand towards you into mouth loop, and then to left between body and left mouth string; return hand right with this string on back of wrist.
3. Pass left hand to right between body and right mouth string; return hand left with this string on back of wrist.
4. Put both little fingers towards you into mouth loop; drop string from mouth; extend.
5. Pass mouth distal to little finger loops, and between teeth pick up ulnar wrist string; pull it towards you, distal to all strings.
6. Pass right thumb to left over the mouth loop; on back of thumb pick up left mouth string, and pull it to your right so that it clears the right mouth string.
7. Pass left thumb to right over the right mouth string; on back of thumb pick up this string. Drop mouth loop, and extend strings.
8. Insert thumbs from the proximal side into little finger loops. and return with radial iittle finger atrings.
9. Pass indices from the proximal side into thumb loops, and on their tips pick up ulnar thumb strings. Press thumbs close to indices to hold loose strings, and straighten indices.
10. In the figure before you are two trianglea depending from their apices upon the ulnar index string. With the teeth, draw the uinar little finger string towards you through the right hand triangle, at the same time releasing the right little finger.
11. Transfer index loop to little finger, and release thumb;
12. Pass thumb from proximal side into little finger loop, then onwards, distal to intervening stringe, into mouth loop from distal side. Turn the thumb back towards the right, so that it passes under the right mouth string. then drop mouth loop.
13. Repeat 10,11 and 12 on left hand.
14. Pass indices into thumb loope from the proximal side; on their tips pick up ulnar thumb strings. Keeping thurabs ciose, to hold loose strings, straighten indices and extend by turning palm away from you.

## Variant of same. seen in onotoa.

Aftex completing movement 13 above, transfer wrist loops to thumbs. From proximsl side pass indices into proximal thumb loops: pick up on tips the ulnar strings of proximal loops; press up thumbs to hold loose strings, straghten indices. and turn palms away from you.



[^0]:    1rote. The number of diamonds in this figure may be inoreased. by repcating movements 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 before proceedinc with 7.

