



In the Early Times there was nothing but dusk and the land was cold and unwelcoming. Night and his partner Darkness had three daughters. Darkness made a rattling necklace for each of their daughters: one was made from a tortoise shell filled with stones, tied together with the skin of a baboon; another was made from small calabashes filled with seeds and tied with string made from the bark of trees; and the third was made from springbok ears filled with springbok eyes and tied with springbok sinew. The daughters were told never to remove the necklaces, or their food would vanish from the veld. The daughters married the three sons of ||kaggen (the mantis/man and creator of the eland in the Early Times). Marriage turned the eldest daughter into a very sluggish and lazy being, and baboons prepared to attack her and her husband in order to recover the necklace tied together with Baboon hide. At this point, ||Kaggen turns the husband into a giant bird and their child into the Echo. The bird flaps its great

wings creating dust and a whirlwind, and Echo's calls reverberate loudly across the landscape. The baboons make their escape. In time the lazy daughter falls into a deep sleep and becomes a mountain, the necklace defining its features. The baboons rejoice and make their way back to the mountain to live and play in the crags and make the rocks their watch posts.

The one side of the tail shows the baboons attempting to recover the necklace while ||kaggen (the green figure) observes. The other side of the tail shows the ||kaggen who, in his winged form, creates the storm in which transformation takes place and the youngster is turned into Echo. The reverberations are depicted in the ripples of the waterholes that, today are still found in the mountains.