The story of the canoe of Bakawanoku.

He came from Mone, the western side of heaven, and the people of his canoe were Nii Ketowa, and Nii Kororama, and Nii Bunginaco, and Nii Taorakka, and Nii Karumakuma, and Nii Batangitang, and Bani-bakarokka, and Ban-onomuti, and Bani-Karikiriuki. [They landed by the village of Tabiang]. Nii Kororama stayed on the shoal in the sea. And Ban-onomuti with Bani-Karikiriuki stayed on the beach. And Nii Batangitang stayed under the shelving rock, and Bakawanoku stayed on the rock pinnacle facing west. And Nii Ketowa, and Nii Karumakuma, and Nii Bunginaco, and Nii Taorakka, and Taianibakarokka were taken up eastwards into the village of Tabiang. And this was the habit of that company: they visited with sickness the people who passed near them, for they visited them with boils and sore eyelids. And so they lay with none in wedlock, by reason of that habit of sending sickness. And so they remain until three days; their bodies remain as stones.

Only Bakawanoku's body is not to be seen nowadays. And (as for) the habit of that man Bakawanoku, he was different from mortal men, for when he went to fish, he carried no line and he carried no hook. Indeed, he walked westwards, striking westwards away to the edge of the reef, to lie there; and when a shark or a stingray passed over him he strung it on his string of sinnet, and carried it eastwards to his dwelling-place. After that he Hewed the
firewood for his meal. And all the people heard when he was busied with the firewood, and they said, "Your friend Bakanansokan has got a meal, for he is again busy with his firewood." And after that, his fire smoked, and it was seen by the people. And again, the burning of the fire who slept was seen. When it burned, the burning of his fire was like the lightning, and not in the likeness of true fire.

And the next morning (the people) went to see that place, and it was indeed true that the barbs of stingray and the teeth of sharks were there; and if you would pick them up you could not, for they clung to the rock. And in these days, the place where they were is called Ao-ni. Bakanansokan.*

That man Bakanansokan was once seen by a woman: she was sleeping; it was night, and she dreamed that Bakanansokan was coming out of the west. And he spoke to her, for he loved her, and desired to sport with her. And as for her, she awoke, and she saw that man, for he stood before her. He said, "I love thee, and I shall sport with thee." And that woman refused, for she was afraid, for she thought that he looked like no mortal; she was like dead water on the reef, and his head, she thought, was

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* The pinnacle of rock where Bakanansokan is said to have dwelt is still there. Until lately, the petrified simulacra of shark-teeth and stingray barbs, referred to in this tale, were also to be seen. But Gilbertese visitors have chipped them from the bedrock, and removed them secretly, for purposes of magic, without a doubt.
like a jellyfish, and his genitals were surpassingly big, perhaps a fathom long. That was why the woman was afraid; so she refused to sleep with Bakamanokan.

And Bakamanokan had a child, though his wife was not known. And his child stayed in a cave facing west, and he is like a doll to see.