

EKKELAND GOETZE - AMAZONAS - THE STORIES

There once lived a man in this area who had a somewhat dubious reputation. The man in question liked to drink Cachaça. One day, he sailed with his boat across to Marituba, in order buy Cachaça. He bought seven bottles and some bananas.

It was really dark on the way back. As he passed the swampland over there, he suddenly noticed two flames behind him. And these flames were coming from the nostrils of a great big Sucuri, a gigantic snake, the existence of which one had suspected but who really actually lived there.

He rowed as fast as he could away from it, but it didn't help him, the snake caught the man including the Cachaça and bananas.

When he arrived in the stomach of the snake, it was very dark but as big as a house. He lit his lighter and in this light he saw the heart of the snake beating. With his knife he stabbed at it like a wild man.

In all its pain, the snake rushed up this mountain and all the people ran after it. With axes and machetes they struck the snake until there was a great big hole in it.

And there they saw this man who had just been swallowed by the snake, how he was drinking Cachaça and eating bananas.

And that is how he survived it.

Told by Fujenco Silvo in Nova Sociadade at Rio Arrapiúns, on 20th September 2000.

