

PK stories

qu?išinm̓it ?uh?iis̓ paak^winm̓it • Raven and Skate

1. haw̓ikitwa?iis̓ qu?išinm̓it. ?uuqmish̓?at ha?uk, wik ?aanahi ?uu?uuk^wači ha?umñah̓.
2. ?uušh̓?iis̓?aał ?iic?iiqha ?in ?uhsiičił paak^winm̓it, ?uunuułh̓ ?in łac. waa?iis̓?aał łałuu ?in ?u?iicmaḥsa p̓uu?im̓it.
3. ?ah̓?aa?aałwa?iis̓ hałiil̓ qu?išinm̓it paak^winm̓it čaxst̓ałmaḥsa. hinata?as?apał paašh̓ima huucmaak?i.
4. čaani?aałat wik waa?at paak^winm̓it. ?ah̓?aa?aałat čuu waa?at. ḥaa?uqh̓šiłš̓i?aał?aał čaxst̓ał.
5. —sutwii?aałi čaxš̓ił—waa?aał paak^winm̓it.
6. čaxš̓i?aał qu?išinm̓it k̓^wačš̓iłmaḥsa. hi?aa?aałuk cax̓yak, wikcači?aałuk, ?uunuułh̓ ?in čitx̓š̓i?aał paak^winm̓it, łiḥaqš̓i?aał.
7. —wikii q^waa?ap! ?aaqinqḥk čitx̓š̓ił!—waa?aał qu?išinm̓it.
8. ḥa?uqh̓š̓i?aał paak^winm̓it. wik̓uu?itq čaxš̓ił, tuxš̓i?aał qu?išinm̓it. naawaḥi?aał paak^winm̓it, čaxš̓i?aał tuux^wapałquu qu?išinm̓it. čawaqstu?aał čaxswii?aałat
9. —qaaq qaaq!—fiqaa?aał ?in yayaačapał.
10. —łakš̓i?i haḥweek—waa?aałat nawaayis̓m̓inḥ?i.
11. ?učakwa?iis̓ himwičay̓ak ?in hiiš̓iłquuk ?aaph̓ii.

Raven was a glutton. He enjoyed eating, but not looking for food on his own.

The way some tell it, he wanted to eat Skate, because Skate was fat. Others say that it was Halibut who he wanted to eat.

Anyway, Raven invited Skate to a spearing contest. He had his wife Light-Mind go invite him.

At first Skate said no, but eventually he agreed. Then they took turns throwing spears.

Skate said, “You throw your spear first.”

Raven threw his spear, trying to hit him, but his spear missed and went wide, because Skate turned to one side, making himself skinny.

Raven said, “Don’t do that! Why did you turn?”

Then it was Skate’s turn. Before Skate threw, Raven jumped. Skate waited until he was in the air, then threw his spear. Raven was speared right through.

“Kaak kaak!” he screamed in pain.

The people watching on the beach said, “Serves you right, you glutton.”

The story says to be kind and generous to everyone. Don’t

wiksuuk^{la} ḥanaaq^λ. ḥa?uk^{wi}λ?aq^λat?ick ḥanaaq^λquuk.

be greedy. If you're greedy, it will come back to you.

muwaačmit ?uh?iis ?ink • Deer and fire

1. ?anumtwa?iš q^wayačiiktaqumł ?inknaak huu?ak ?uyi. hiiłuk maḥtii?ak.

Long ago, only the wolf tribe had fire. They kept it in their house.

2. ?inknaakmaḥsa λaλuuқтаqumł. ča?uušuk?aał ?u?iičaλquu ḥa?um. čitas^yiḥa ?athiya. tup?aq^λλa wikiitaλquu hupał.

The other tribes wanted fire too. They had to eat their food raw. They were cold at night. And it was dark, unless the moon was out.

3. ?ayaaλwa?iš ḥamiłšiλ hiniip ?inkuk q^wayačiiktaqumł, ḥaa?akmīnḥ witwaak ?uh?iis ḥiḥaqsṭinakmīnḥ. hišuk^waλ wikiip.

Many tried to get the wolves' fire. There were strong warriors, and wise people. They all failed to get it.

4. ?ah?aa?aλwa?iš—siyaaq?aq^λs ḥamiłšiλ—waa?ičaλ muwaačmit. ?ačknaḥ?is ma?iλqac?is tiictix?is. λiiwīn?apałat λaλuu?i.

And then Son of Deer said, "I will try." He was a little boy fawn. The others laughed at him.

5. —wimaaq^λ?ick. ?aa?aačknaḥapi?issuuk—waa?aλat.

"You can't do it. You're too small," they said.

6. —kuwīłapīč ḥamiłšiλ—waa?aλ ḥawīł?i.

"Let him try," said the chief.

7. čuu, huł?iču?aλ muwaačmit. pičtin?ak huł?in. ?u?aḥuk hišcuq^wati ?uh?iis hišcuu?i pičup.

So Deer put on his dancing costume. It was made of cedar bark, and had abalone shells and shredded bark on it.

8. ?uupaah?aλ yaaqsčaḥinmīnḥ?itq hułmaas. hułii?i?aλ?ał mačīnλ maḥtii?ak q^wayačiiktaqumł.

Then he and his friends went dancing house to house. They danced into the wolves' house.

9. tuuxtuux^waλ muwaačmit huułhuuła. mick^waa?aλ q^wayačiikmīnḥ ?in huułmaḥuk.

Deer was jumping around as he danced. The wolves were amazed, because he was such a good dancer.

10. tuxcpaa?aλ ?ink?ii. ?ink^wači?aλuk hišcuu pičup. na^yiikaλ?ał yaacšiλ.

He jumped over the fire. His bark started burning. They left immediately.

11. hin?ałši?aλ q^wayačiiktaqumł q^wis?iitq muwaačmit.

The wolves realized what Deer had done. They went to

ʔucačiʔaʔaʔaʔ hiʔiitq ʔaanismit.

12. —ʔakʉiʔin ʔučqʉuʔakʔitk ʔaʔiqs—waaʔaʔ.

13. —čuuč. wikiičum ʔuuʔuupi kuʔsaap—waaʔaʔat.

14. čuu, [takaaʔaʔ] qʷis ʔuuʔuupiʔaʔ. ʔiiʔaʔ ʔučqʃiʔ.
hiʔukʷaʔ paʔaʔiʔ hayumʔas. ʔačaaʔaʔat ʔaʔiʔ.
muwaačmit.

15. maʔwaačiʔaʔ ʔink hiiʔiʔ maatmaas. hiʔukʷaʔ ʔiičuu
ʔin ʔuuʔnaakʃiʔaʔ. ʔuʔumʔičiʔaʔ ʔupmiiʔʔap, ʔaacs
ʔaʔiya, siqiiʔ.

16. qʷiʔitiic hiʔuk ʔinknaakʃiʔ. čuu.

Son of Heron.

“Lend us your fog box,” they said.

“Okay,” said Heron. “Don’t open it too far.”

Well, they opened it too far. It got so foggy that everyone was wandering around lost. Deer escaped and went home.

He brought the fire to all the tribes. They all feasted to celebrate the valuable gift. Now they could heat their houses, see at night, and cook their food.

And that’s how everyone got fire.