

How Terrapin Got a Cracked Shell (Lucy, Kuno)⁷¹

Told by J. Hill (VI:171-177)

Konucvlket vpoken Lucv-tokocket rem oret ont
konocâlkit apô·kin locatokóckit⁷² ’himô·lit ónt
little pole-cats were living terrapin came up on them did
Box Turtle got to where some little skunks were living,

“Cecketake estvn aya?” kicen,
cickitá·ki ístan â·ya·⁷³ keycín
your (pl.) mother where has she gone? he said
“Where has your mother gone?” he asked,

“Yatan arētat os” kicaken,
ya·tá·n a·lí·ta·t ó·ns keyca·kín
close, nearby she is around is they told him
“She’s close by,” they said,

“Nakvlke toyēs, cecke makētvnka?” Lucvt maken,
nâ·kâlki tô·yi·s cícki ma·kí·taŋka·[^] locát ma·kín
what (relation, clan) we are your mother does she say the turtle said
“Did your mother say what clan you are?”⁷⁴ Turtle asked,

Konucvlket okakat, “Konepvlke toyēs makētvnks” kicaken,
konocâlkit oka·kâ·t konipâlki⁷⁵ tô·yi·s ma·kí·taŋks keyca·kín
the little pole-cats said Pole-cat clan we are she said they told him
and the little skunks said, “She said we’re Skunk clan,”

“Mvtoyis” makēt,
“matô·yeys” ma·kí·t
I am that, the same he said
“I am the same,” he said,

“Rvcetokmusēn cēyet vliken
lácitókmosi·n cî·yit alēykin
a little round knoll in the side of a hill it was going in and was there
“She went into a little knoll and was there,

⁷¹ Title: locá konó ‘turtle, skunk’.

⁷² Raiford: locatakóckit.

⁷³ For short: tan â·ya·[^]. Original: â·ya·[˘].

⁷⁴ M: Or more literally: “Did you say what clan we are?”

⁷⁵ konipâlki ‘Pole-cat (Skunk) clan’. According to Hill, this word is used instead of konâlki in referring to the clan. Raiford notes that the Wind clan goes with the Skunk clan, because the wind carries away the scent of the skunk.

sakco huten roret liken eshēcet ont
sákco hótin lô·lit lēykin ishî·cit ónt
crawfish den she got to and she sitting and found him did
and having reached a crawfish den, she found [Turtle] sitting there,

“Sem vkonokuehcis’ cvkicetskvoken arit omvyē.
“simakonô·kóyhceys” cakâycickacókin a·léyt o·mayi·[^]
I had intercourse with her you said that about me I around I am
“I’m here because you said ‘I skunked around with her.’”

Mahketska?” kicen,
máhkicka·[^] keycín
did you say it? [she said]
Did you say it?” she asked,

“Maḡvyēseks” Lucv maken,
“mă·ⁿkayi·siks” locá ma·kín
I didn’t say that turtle said
“I didn’t say that,” Turtle said,

“Mahkis’ makvs” kicē emonket omen,
“máhkeys má·kas” keycí· imôḡkit o·mín
I said that you say telling him she kept on did
“Admit that you said it,” she kept saying,

“Mahkis” makat
“máhkeys” ma·kâ·t
I said that when he said
and when he said “I said it,”

Lucv ‘Taskēpit’ koman,
locá ta·skî·peyt kô·ma·n
turtle I will jump he thought
Turtle thought he’d jump,

rēhotvwvt cuko tohtarkan em vtakkahken vliken,
li·hotáwat cokó tohtá·lkan imatakkáhkin alēykin
shot-pouch on the house- corner and he got hung and was hanging to
but he got caught on a shotpouch on the rafter of the house,

kecvpen esnvfiket cetakhoyvtēt omēs.
kicápin isnafēykit citakhoyáti·t⁷⁷ ô·mi·s
pestle she hit it with it had been mashed had been
and she hit him with her pounding stick and it got mashed.

⁷⁷ M: Haas nb has sitakhoyáti·t.

Mohmen liket huehket, “Vtvkoca!
móhmin lêykit hóyhkit atakoca·^
Then sitting he called ant
Then, sitting, he called, “Ants!

cvtelih-lih, cvtelih-lih maket liken
catiléyhleyh⁷⁸ catiléyhleyh ma·kít lêykin
come put me together [come put me together] he said and he was sitting
Come put me together, Come put me together,” he said, sitting there,

vtvkocat em vtlohket,
atakocá·t⁷⁹ imatilóhkit
the ants gathered together for it
and the ants gathered together for him,

etelomh̄cet mehcen,
itilomh̄y⁸⁰cit míhcin⁸⁰
and they were putting him together they did that
and they pieced him all back together,

enwikvtēt ont ehvrpe tat etelumhēt ont omēs.
ínweykati·t ônt ihálpita·t itilómhi·t ônt o·mí·s
it had gotten well had its shell is put together in that way
and where it had healed, its shell comes together.

⁷⁸ In ordinary language: catiléycas.

⁷⁹ Original: atakocát. Raiford: atakocá·.

⁸⁰ M: MM suggests mi·cáhkin.