

The Boy Who Turned Into a Snake

Told by I. Field (V:97-111)

Fayvlket vpēyvtēs.
fa-yâlkit api-yatí·s
hunters went
Hunters went out.

Este tuccēnet hvpo res hayakvtēs.
ísti toccî·nit hapó· lishá·ya·katí·s
people three camp went and made
Three people went and made camp.

Momen fayet fullvtēs.
mo·mín fa·yít follatí·s
Then hunting there were about
Then they went out hunting.

Momen yvt hvnkat cēpanat erke, ecke tepakat ocēt omvtēs.
mo·mín yat háŋka·t¹⁶⁷ ci·pâ·na·t ílki ícki 'tipâ·ka·t ó·ci·t ô·mati·s
Then this is one of them the boy father and mother both he had did
And one of these was a boy who had a father and mother.

Mont omat fayē fullē oketv ofv tat,
mônt o·mâ·t fa·yí· follí· okíta ó·fata·t
But at that time hunting being about within that time (while they were hunting)
Now while they were out hunting,

yv este cēpanat custake tuccēnen eshēcvtēs.
ya ísti ci·pâ·na·t costá·ki toccî·nin íshi·catí·s
this person boy eggs three he found
this boy found three eggs.

Ehvpon cvwehpet res vlvkēpvtēs
ihapó·n cawíhpit 'hisaláki·patí·s
to his camp took them and brought them back
He picked them up and brought them to his camp.

Momat pvpēpvtēs.
mo·mâ·t papi·patí·s
Then he ate them
Then he ate them.

¹⁶⁷ Or: hámka·t.

Papet taklikvtēs.
pâ·pit taklêykati·s
had eaten them and was sitting down
He had eaten them and was sitting down.

Momen hokkolat rvlahokvtēs.
mo·mín hokkô·la·t 'lálá·ho·katí·s
Then the other two came back
Then the other two came back.

“Naken momēt vnheciken papit omis” kicet 'monayvtēs.
nâ·kin mó·mi·t anhicêykin pâ·peyt o·méys keycít móna·yatí·s
something like that I found I ate it I have he told them he told them
“I found something like that and ate it,” he told them.

“Mohmēskotan ontskes” kicakvtēs.
móhmí·sko·ta·n ónckis kéyca·katí·s
you shouldn't have done that they told him
“You shouldn't have done that,” they told him.

“Nake ēhoneckē tis omēpēs” kitt em onvyaken,
nâ·ki i·honícki·teys¹⁶⁸ omî·pi·s kéytt imónaya·kín
something scary, fearful, awful it might be that's what they were telling him
“It might be something dangerous [or not normal],” they were telling him,

tak·vpoken yvfiket yomockvtēs.
takkapô·kin yafêykit yomo·ckati·s
they 3 were sitting it got evening it got dark
and they sat, and it became evening and got dark.

“Naken momēs” 'culvket ompekv vketēcvkētātēs.
nâ·kin mó·mi·s 'colakít ômpika akiti·cakí·tá·ti·s
something might happen for the old people they watched him
“Something might happen,” the old people [thought], so they watched him.

Mv nerē tat fekherekot yomockvtēn nerē·nvrkvpv orat tat
ma niłi·ta·t fikhiłikot yomóckati·n niłi·nałkapá o·lâ·tta·t
that night restless after dark about midnight when it was
He was restless that night, after dark, when it was about midnight,

mv este cēpanat fekherekot nekēyet takwakkvtēs.
ma ísti ci·pâ·na·t fikhiłikot nikî·nyit takwâ·kkati·s
that person, boy restless got was moving was lying down.
the boy was restless and he lay there moving.

¹⁶⁸ Original: i·honíckipeys.

Takwakket omen vketēcvkēt,
takwâ·kkit o·mín akiti·cakí·t
he was lying down they were watching him
The two men lay there on the other side

pvnrvnken mv este hokkolat atakwakhokvtēs.
panlânkin ma ísti hokkô·la·t a·takwakhô·kati·s
on the other side those people two were lying (on the other side of) him
watching him as he lay there.

Ont omen hvyvtke oh·vyēpattat cetto herakat hakē vyēpet
ônt o·mín hayátki ohhayi·pâ·tta·t cítto hiłá·ⁿka·t há·ki· ayi·pít
it was day getting to be snake big kind becoming, getting to be down
By daylight when they saw he was turning into a great snake

takwakken hecakofvt
takwâ·kkin hica·kô·fat
lying down when they saw him
and was lying there, [they told him,]

“Nake momēs mahokvnton,
nâ·ki mó·mí·s má·ho·kánton
like that would happen that’s what has been said
“They said things like that would happen,

’sēyohfvccēcet ontskes ce.”
si·yohfaccî·cit ónckis cí^
you have proven that on yourself you have
and you have proven that on yourself.”

“Cvmomēpet on oketskes” kicen,
camo·mî·pít ô·n o·kíckis keycín
I am that way you were right he said
“I am that way, you’re right,” he told them,

opunvkv kocuknusēn ’tem punahoyvtēs ont omat,
oponaká kocóknosi·n timponá·ho·yatí·s ônt o·mâ·t
talk short they talked to each other they did
and they talked a little while and asked,

“Ceckvlke tat naken kicēt cem em onvyvrētē?” kicof,
cickâlkita·t nâ·kin keycí·t cimimonéyâli·ti·¹⁶⁹ keycô·f
your parents what shall we tell (your parents)? when he, they said
“What shall we tell your parents?”

“Akhvsuce mvn akhvtvpkvhanikv,
akhasóci man akhatápkaha·néyka
little pond there I’m going down (to that pond)
“I’m going down into that little pond there,

cvhecvkvrēs ce.
cahicakáli·s¹⁷⁰ ci·[^].
they will see me
so they will see me.

Momis cvhocefkv tatēn vnhuehkaket omvrēs” kicet ’mvyeposkvētēs.
mo·mēys cahocí·fka tá·ti·n anhóyhka·kít omáli·s keycít ’mayípo·skatí·s
But [my] name used-to-be they must call me they must he said in answer.
But they must call me by my former name,” he answered.

“Momen mv akhvsucen raklikehpin yofulhohket,
mo·mín ma akhasócin łakleykíhpeyn yofolhóhkit
Then that little pond when I went and got in there you 2 go back
“When I’m down in that little pond, you two go back,

cvckvlke tat em onvyvhvntskat tvlkēs” kicvtēs.
cackâlkita·t imonéyaháncka·t tâlki·s keycatí·s
my parents you tell them (you) must he said
and you must tell my parents,” he said.

Efulhohket enkaketv rorhohyet
ifolhóhkit iŋka·kitá¹⁷¹ łóhóhyit¹⁷²
they 2 went back to where they stayed getting there, when they got there
They went back to their home

eckvlken em onvyakvtēs.
ickâlkin imónaya·katí·s
his parents they told them
and told his parents.

¹⁶⁹ Could also have said nâ·kin keycí·t imonayíyali·ti·[^].

¹⁷⁰ -t- or -h-.

¹⁷¹ Raiford would say inka·kitá.

¹⁷² Originally: łóhó·yít.

Nake 'stomahēt momēpet omen, 'Cvhecetv 'yacaket omat,
 nâ·ki stó·ma·hi·t mó·mi·pít o·mín cahicitá yá·ca·kít o·mâ·t
 something peculiar, mysterious has happened to see me (if) they want if
 “Something strange has happened, [and your son] said, ‘If they want to see me,

cvhocēfet vnhuehkaken omat,
 cahóci·fit anhóyhka·kín o·mâ·t
 by my name (if) they call me if
 if they call me by name,

'teheceyvrēs' maket,
 'tihicíyáfi·s ma·kít
 we will see each other saying
 we will see each other,' he said,

akhvtvpkehpen rvthot omēs kicet,
 akhatapkihpín látho·t o·mí·s keycít
 and went down into (the pond) (and) we 2 came back they said
 and he went down into the water and we came here,” they said,

eckvlke tat em onvyaken omof,
 ickâlkita·t imónaya·kín o·mô·f
 his parents (when) they told when, after
 and when they told his parents,

“Estvmvn on omat pum onvyvhvntskat tvlkēs” kicvkēpen,
 ístaman ô·n o·mâ·t pomonéyaháncka·t tâlki·s kéycaki·pín
 wherever it was you will have to tell us have to they told them
 they said, “You will have to tell us where it was,”

vhoyen yvcakkvfulhokvtēs.
 aho·yín yacakkafólho·katí·s
 they 2 went and (his parents) followed them back
 and they both went and [the parents] followed them back.

Momen akhvsuce çotkusē akhvtapkvttet onkot
 mo·mín akhasocí cō·ⁿtkosi· akhatâ·pkatit óŋkot
 Then pond very little he had gotten down into it didn't seem
 Then it wasn't the little pond he had gone down into [anymore],

uewv tat ēhoneckē hēret liken eroricvtēs.
 óywata·t i·honícki· hĩ·ⁿlit leykin ílóleycatí·s
 the water scary, mysterious very (lying) they got there (to it)
 the water was really hazardous when they reached it.

“Yvn omvns” kicet ’monvyakvtēs.
yan ô·maṅks keycít ’monáya·katí·s
this is where it was they said they told them
“This is where it was,” they told them.

Momof hocéfaket enhuehkakvtēs.
mo·mô·f hocífa·kít inhóyhka·katí·s
Then by his name they called him
Then they called him by name.

Enhuehkē ’svhokkolican mv ue-nvrkvpvn afvnket omat,
inhoyhkí· ’sahókkoleycâ·n ma oynaṅkapán á·faṅkít o·mâ·t
(after) calling him the second time there middle of the water (when) he peeped out
When they called him a second time, he came up in the middle of the water,

cetto herakv hakepēt omet
cítto hiḷá·ka ha·kipí·t ô·mit
snake big, fine kind had become
[it was clear] he had become a fine snake,

afvnket omvtēs.
á·faṅkít o·matí·s
and had peeped out
and he came up.

Enhuehkē monken aṭet vlaken
ínhoyhkí· môṅkin ä·ⁿtit alâ·kin
calling him they kept (calling him) kept coming till he came
They kept calling him till he came,

uewv ’mvtēkēn eckvlke tat ohkakvtēs.
óywa ’mati·kí·n ickâlkita·t óhka·katí·s
(to where) water’s edge his parents they sitting (at the water’s edge).
and his parents sat on the edge of the water.

Momen enhuehkē monken vwḷusen yvfvnkvētēs.
mo·mín inhoyhkí· môṅkin awḏ·ⁿlosin yáfaṅkatí·s
Then calling him kept on very close peeped out (from close by)
Then they kept calling and he came up very close by.

“Momēn cvmomehpet ēlvpvtkuecit,
mo·mí·n camo·míhpit i·lapatkôyceyt
that way I became, got (that way) strayed away
“This happened to me and I strayed away

