

wîsakêcâhk kê-pimiwatêkohanê onikamôwiniwat

Weesakechahk carries around his song bag

- 1 pëyakwâ manâ mîna wisakêcâhk, pimâšakâmêw manâ sipîhk.
n'tahâšakâmêw.
kêka manâ mâka ê-pimohtêt, wêhci-wâpamât manâ ê-'kwamon'ci
kâ-m...mihcêtin'ci pinêsiwa: wêhwêwa, niskawa, šîšîpa, mwâkwa, misiwê
piko tahtoyêk pinêsiwa.¹ kanawâpamêw manâ.
"šâ!" manâ itên'tam. "tâ'ka ytê² kê-ki-tôtamowâpânê 'ci-ki-nipahakik ôko
'wiyâšîšak," manâ itên'tam.
âšay manâ kiskisopaniw kê-tôtahk. kospipahtâw manâ mistikohk.
"n'ka-n'tawâpahtên askiy," manâ itên'tam, "êko mâka n'ka-pimiwatân.
wâpamitwâwê mâk' ê-pimiwatêwak, n'ka-pêci-têpwâtikwak," itên'tam.
"ta-wî-kiskên'tamwak awênihkâna kê-p'mohtên'ci. ta-wî-kiskên'tamwak
kêkwâniw kê-pimiwatêwak," manâ itên'tam.
âšay manâ manipitam³ askîniw. mîwatihkâsow manâ. posciwatêw
mistahi askîniw. êko manâ mâka mîna n'têhâšakâmêt.⁴
- 2 âšay manâ awiyâšîšak wâpamêwak ê-pimohtên'ci. "šâ!" manâ itwêwak.
"awênihkân ana kê-pimâšakâmêt," manâ itwêwak.
"hêy, wîsakêcâhk oš' âna," manâ itwêwak kotakiyak.
"mâhti, têpwâtâta," manâ it'tôwak.
âšay manâ tâpwê: "hêy, wîsakêcâhk! kêkwân kê-pimiwatêyin," manâ
itwêwak.
mân', mân' êkâ win' êšinâkosit manâ wîsakêcâhk. kê-pimohtêt manâ piko.
môna, môna môna kiskisiw ..., môna pisiskihkawêhkâsow.
âšay manâ mîn' awiyâšîšak têpwâtêwak: "hêy, wîsakêcâhk! kêkwân
kê-pimiwatêyin?"
âšay manâ pêhtawêw mâka. kipihcipaniw.
"wa?"⁵
"kêkwân kê-pimiwatêyin?"
"ôô...! 'kwantaw ô kêkwân kê-pimiwatêyân. ninikamôwiniwat ô
kê-pimiwatêyân," manâ itêw.
"ô mâht' îsa mâka nikamo; ka-pêhtâtînân," manâ itwêwak awiyâšîšak.
"mônah. môna n'ka-ki-tôtên ôtah. pâtimâ piko pihtokwamihk
n'ka-ki-nikamon."
"kêkwân mâk' êkâ wêhci-ôšihâyin mikiwâm?" manâ itwêwak awiyâšîšak.
"êkotâni mâk' îši-nikamo pîhci mikiwâmihk."

- 1 Once again then, Weesakechahk. He was walking along by the river. He
was heading up-stream.
And then at last as he was walking along, all of a sudden he caught sight
of ma..., many birds sitting on the water: waveys, geese, ducks, loons, – all
kinds of birds. He looked at them.
"My goodness!" he thought, "I wonder what I should do to kill these
creatures," he thought then.
Now, then, it occurred to him what he would do. He made his way up the
bank to the trees. "I'll go fetch some moss," he thought, "and then I'll carry it
along. But when the birds see me carrying it," he thought, "they'll come and
call out to me. They'll want to know who it is that's walking along. They'll
want to know what I'm carrying on my back," he thought.
Then he collected some moss. Pretending it was a bag, he slung a lot of
moss over his shoulder. Then he continued to walk up-stream.
- 2 Now then, the animals saw him walking along. "Dear me," they said.
"Who is that walking along the waterside?" they said.
"Why, that's Weesakechahk, you realize," the others said then.
"Come on. Let's call out to him," they said to one another.
Now they were ready to call: "Yoo-hoo, Weesakechahk! What is it that you
are carrying on your back?" they said.
Weesakechahk gave no sign of hearing. He just kept on walking. He did
not, not, not remember..., he pretended that he didn't hear.
Now the creatures called out to him again: "Yoo-hoo, Weesakechahk!
What are you carrying?"
Now then he heard them. He came to a stop.
"Halloo!"
"What is it you are carrying?"
"Oh, just some stuff that I'm carrying about. It's my song bag that I'm
carrying here," he said to them.
"Oh, but do sing; we shall hear you," then said the animals.
"No. I can't do it here. I'll only be able to sing later on indoors."
"Well, why don't you make a tent?" the animals then said. "And sing right
there inside the tent."

"êškw' isa pitamá. kiwi-péhtênâwâw ná 'nikamoyân? pitamá 'sa n'ka-n'taw'-ošihtân mikiwâm. êko mâka misiwê kê-pêci-pihtokwêyêk; êko mâka kê-péhtawiyêk ê-nikamoyân," manâ itwêw.

- 3 ášay manâ tâpwê kospahtâw mistikohk, mamânipitam⁶ askîniw, mistikwa mâka. wîpac manâ ošihtâw mikiwâminiw. mišâhtâw. pêškiš mâka mêkwâc êy-ošihtât mik'wâminiw, mamânipitêw watapîya. nakwâkaniyâpîhkêw mâka, watapîya êy-âpaciâhât. antê manâ mâka tašwâpîhkêšimêw, "kêy-ohci-ocipahât wî-nipahâtê 'nih' awiyâšiša," ê-itwâsot.

ášay manâ kâ-škwâ-kîšihtât wîkih, ášay manâ tēpwâtêw anihî pinêsiwa: "êkoh,⁷ ástamik. ášay n'k'-iškwa-'šihtân mik'wâm. êko mâka pêci-n'tohtawik ê-nikamoyân," manâ iši-tēpwâtêw anihî pinêsiwa.

- 4 ášay manâ misiwê pinêsiwak pêci-kapatêsipahâtâwak.

pêci-mihcêtiwak manâ. êko mâka kê-péhtawâcîk ê-nikamon'ci manâ itên'tamwak.

misiwê manâ pêci-pihtokêwak anta mik'wâmihk. wâšakâmêpiwak manâh. têtâwic manâ mâka išiy-apiw ana wîsakécâhk, ê-têhtapit wîwat, otaskîwat kâ-kîy-ošihtât.

ášay manâ mâka mâci-nikamow. 'kwantaw manâ piko ayítahamâsow, ê-šî-kiskên'tahk piko ayítwêw.

kêka manâ mâka n'tawênimêw 'ci-nîmin'ci. "nîmik," manâ itwêw, "mêkwâc ê-nikamoyân."

tâpwê manâ mâka nîmiwak aniki wêhwêwak, nîskak mâka, šîšîpak, misiwê man' ayítahamâsow.

kêka manâ mâka wîhtamawêw, mwêhci w'kêt...,⁸ mwêhci k'-âtiy-ayítwêw ê-nikamot, 'kwâni mwêhci kê-'ci-tôtamin'ci.⁹ iši-kinâškimêw.¹⁰

- 5 ášay manâ mēkwâc ê-nikamot, "pasakwâpîšimôwin, pasakwâpîšimôwin," manâ itahamâsow.

tâpwê manâ nîmiwak aniki pinêsiwak. pasakwâpiwak manâ ê-nîmicik. "ayasikwêšimôwin, ayasikwêšimôwin," manâ itwêw.¹¹

'kwâni manâ tâpw' ê-tôtahkik: ayasikwêšimôwak ê-nîmicik mēkwâc.

ášay manâ mâka wawocipahêw anihî ôtôta... ôtôtapîma, nanakwâtaho-wêpinêw manâ. 'kwâni manâ mâk' êši-kipihkwêpitât anim' ê-pipêskwahpitât, anihî manâ mâka k'-âti-nipahât, 'kwân' êši-wawânawî-wêpinât.

pîniš manâ mâka mihcêt nipahêw; pitihkohtâwak mâka wanawîtimihk nêki k'-âti-wanawî-yêpinihcik.¹²

"Just wait a minute! Do you want to hear my singing? First I'll go make a tent. Then you'll all come inside; and then you'll hear me singing," he said.

- 3 Now then he went right up the bank to the trees and went around gathering moss and sticks. Soon he made a wigwam. He made it big. But even so, while he was making the wigwam he went around pulling up roots. Using the roots, he made snare lines. Then he spread them out there to one side, "from where he will suddenly pull them when he wants to kill those creatures," he said to himself.

Now then, when he had finished his dwelling, he called those birds: "Come along then. I've already finished the wigwam. So come on, then, and listen to me singing," he called out to those birds.

- 4 Then all the birds came running ashore. They came in great numbers.

And now, they thought, they would hear him singing.

They all came pouring right into the tent. Around in a circle they sat; and right in the middle there sat that fellow Weesakechahk, sitting atop his bag, his moss bag which he had made.

And now he began to sing. He just sang any old way, saying anything which came to his mind.

Finally, however, he wanted them to dance. "Dance," he said then, "while I am singing."

Then those waveys danced in earnest, and the geese, – the ducks, every one sang along.

At last he told them, that exactly wh..., exactly what he was saying as he sang, – that is exactly what they should begin to do. In this he was lying to them.

- 5 Now then, while he sang, he intoned, "A shut-eye dance, a shut-eye dance."

Then those birds danced in real earnest. Now as they were dancing they shut their eyes.

"A dance with necks together, a dance with necks together," he intoned.

This is what in fact they proceeded to do: they held their necks together as in the meantime they danced.

But now he quickly snatched those roo..., those roots of his and looped them over their heads. Then he choked them, tying the roots together; and then as he began to kill them, he tossed them outside one after the other.

At last he killed many of them; but they made a beating noise outside, those ones who were being thrown out.

- 6 kēka maná pēhtamwak aniki átiht kotakiyak. "tântê ô nâspic wēhci-pitihkwatácik?" maná itên'tam.¹³
mwákwa maná máka ohc'ítápiw kímóc. pēhkác ohciy-âpaham pēyak oškíšik, ê-wí-wâpamât tân' étótamin'ci.
mwēhci maná mína nakwátaho-wépinéniwa kotakiyah, ê-nímínicih.
'kwáni maná 'ši-kipihkwépitát. wanawí-wépinéw maná.
"ááášay kinipahikonaw wísakécááhk," maná itwēw ana mwákwa' ê-kihcipahtát.
wanawípahtáw maná.
kwácistak wísakécáhk maná kisiwásiw.
'kwáni maná êši-tahkiškátát ospiskwaniníhk. miconi maná napaki-wépiškawēw.
'kwáni maná máka kiyâpac êši-kihcipahtát ana mwákwa. kapastawépahtáw.
misiwé 'šic kotakiyak awiyášišak kihcipahtáwak. pinésiwak 'kwáni êši-kapastawépahtácik, ká-kíy-ohcipah..., ká-kíy-ohcícik.
'kwáni maná máka wēhci-napakisit itwániwan mwákwa, anim' ê-kí-tótawákopanê wísakécáhk, wéskac.
- 7 ášay maná máka ká-iškwa-nipahát mihcét, "šá! tân'ka 'tê má"¹⁴ kē-tótamwáné?" man' étên'tam. minwēn'tam maná.
"êko mák' kē-mícisoyân," maná itwēw. "êko máka kē-mícisoyân."
"šá! tân'k' êtê máka kē-itihkaswáwakwēnak? n'ka-sakapwân kákih, nēstapiko n'ka-nikwáwahahkatēpon. hēhē, 'kwán' tápwe kē-tótamán. n'ka-nikwáwahahkatēpon."
ášay maná kotawépanihow antê nēkáhk nānih sípíhk. mistahi maná kotawēw. ká-'škwá-kotawēt maná máka nēkáhk, êkota maná, êkota man' ána mák' êši-nakwahwát¹⁵ anihi opinésíma. sásákisitéšimēw maná piko tāt' êši-nanikwahwát. mihcét kí-nipahēw; misiwé máka 'kwáni wá-'ši-kísiswát.
- 8 "šá!" maná itên'tam,¹⁶ "tân'ka mína pitamá kí-nipáwápáné! ásay¹⁷ tápwe niwí-nipán. n'tayéskosin," maná itwēw. " 'kwantaw piko kē-tótamán. n'ka-nipán. pēyako-tipahikan nēstapiko nišo-tipahikan. 'kwáni máka máškóc kē-kísisocik koskosiyáné."
ášay maná tápwe kawéšimow. nipáw maná.
mēkwác máka ê-nipát ...¹⁸
- 9 kēka maná koškopaniw,¹⁹ ášay kinwēš ê-kí-nipát.
"šá! ášay máwina kísisotokwēnak," twēw maná.

- 6 Then, at last, several of those others heard it. "How is it they are making so much noise flapping?" they thought.
And then the loon suddenly peeked out stealthily. Carefully he opened one eye as he wanted to see what they were doing.
Just at this point he [Weesakechahk] again threw a noose over the others as they were dancing. Then as he choked them, he threw them outside.
"Naa-a-ow we're being killed by Weesakechahk!" said the loon as he ran away.
Then he tore outside.
My goodness, but Weesakechahk was furious!
Then he kicked him on the back. He flattened him right out.
But the loon kept running away all the more. He ran into the water.
All the other animals ran away along with him. The birds then ran into the water where they had run fr..., where they had first come from.
And that, they say, is the reason why the loon is flattened out: it is because Weesakechahk is supposed to have done that to him, long ago.
- 7 Now then, after he had killed a great many birds, he thought, "Dear me, whatever shall I do with them?" He was pleased.
"Well then, I'll eat," he said. "Well then, I'll eat."
"Dear me! I wonder though which way I should cook them? I'll roast them over the fire, I do believe; or I'll bury and cook them under the hot sand. Aha, that's what I'll do: I'll bury and cook them under the hot sand."
Then he quickly kindled a fire there in the sand beside the river. He made a great fire. And after he had made a fire on the sand, then right at that spot, right at that spot then he buried those birds of his. He put them with their legs sticking up where he buried them here and there. He killed a great many and he wanted to roast them all.
- 8 "Oh my," he thought, "wouldn't I like to have a sleep first! Now I really want to sleep! I'm tired," he said. "I'll just do that. I'll sleep. An hour or two. And then perhaps they'll be cooked when I wake up."
At that point he lay right down. Then he slept.
While he was sleeping ...
- 9 At last Weesakechahk awakened with a start. He had already been asleep a long time.

mêkwác manâ máka ê-nipât, ininiwa kí-pêci-kakêmotamâkow,
mêkwác ê-nipât. 'kwâni misiwê kâ-'š'-otinâcîk anik' ininiwak anihî
pinêsiwa. kí-kîškiškisamwak anihî osita, kâ-sâsâkihtinînikih.
'kwâni manâ máka mîna kâ-'ši-sâsâkihtitâcîk anta nêkâhk, êkâ
'ci-kiskên'tahk ê-ytênimâcîk.²⁰

âšay manâ koskosiw máka wîsakêcâhk.

ocipitam manâ anih' osita.

kâ-kîšipawâcipitahk manâ pîko.²¹

"šâ! âšay n'tôsâmawahahkatêpon," manâ itwêw. "wêsâ kinwêš
n'kî-nipân," itên'tam.

mîna máka kotakiy' ât'-ocipitam kâ-sâkihtinînikih. mîna manâ
pîko kâ-kîškipanînikih.

"šâ! n'tôsâmawahahkatêpon tâpwê. âšay wêsâ mistahi kíh... -kîsisôwak.
kîy-osâmâskisôwak."

10 mîna manâ kotakiya ocipitam.

âšay manâ máka kiskên'tam ê-kî-kimotamawâkaniwit.

misiwê manâ pik' ôsita pîko mošê-sâsâkihtin'iwah.²² misiwê
kî-kimotamâkow ininiwah.

êko manâ mâk' ê-šîwatêt, êko manâ máka miton' ê-kisiwâsit
ê-kî-kimotamâkot intiyin.²³

nâsipêpahtâw man' ântê nêkâhk.

tâpwê kâ-papâmiskanawêcîk ininiwak. mêkwác ê-..., kâ-nipât
ê-kî-pêci-kakêmotamâkot. 'kwâni misiwê kâ-'ši-kimotin'ci anih' owêhwêma.²⁴

êko mâk' êy-apit, ê-šîwatêt

'kwâni pîko êskwâpîhkéyâk.

"Oh my! They must be cooked by now," he said.

While he had been sleeping, however, the people came and stole from him while he was asleep; then those people had taken all those birds. They had cut off those feet of theirs which were sticking up; and then they had stuck them back in the sand again, so Weesakechahk would not know [what had happened], as they thought.

Now Weesakechahk wakened up.

He pulled out the feet.

They came out rather easily.

"Oh dear! Now I've overcooked them," he said. "I've slept too long," he thought.

Again he began to pull at some others which were sticking up. Again they had been cut off.

"Oh dear, I certainly have overcooked them. Now they're coo..., cooked too much. They're overcooked."

10 Again he pulled some others out.

Now, however, he knew that he had been robbed.

Only all their feet were sticking up exposed. Everything had been stolen by the people.

Then he was hungry and thoroughly angry that his things had been stolen by the Indians.

He ran down to the water's edge on the sand.

There, sure enough, the people had made footprints. While he wa..., he had slept, they had come and stolen from him. Then they had come and made off with all his waveys.

And so he sat down, – hungry!

That is the length of the story.