

nâpêw kâ-kî-kitamokokopanê wâpošwa

The man who was devoured by rabbits

- 1 pâstâmwîn išinîhkâtêw 'ma tipácimôwîn.
'kwân' êši-kiskinohamâkaniwicik awâšišak ê-'pišišišicik, êká 'ci-pâhpihâcik awênihkâna kotakiya wayêš ê-'htin'ci. kiskinohamâkêmanan ôma tipácimôwîn ê-tipácimonâniwahk, ê-pêhtahkik awâšišak, 'c'-ohci-kiskên'tahkik êká 'ci-mânênimâcic wîci-'wâšišiwâwa nêstapiko wîc'-inîniwâwa.
- 2 pâyakwâ manâ mîna wêskac nišokamakisiwâkopan manâ 'wênihkânak, inîniwahk, tâpiskôc ê-tašihkêcic ê-piponinik. namêsa manâ mâka nôcihêwak mêkwâc ê-piponinik, wâpošwa mâka, ê-tâpakwêcic ê-ohci-pimâcihocik. mêmîskoc manâ mâka kihtohtêwak ê-n'tawahocik pâyak pâyakwâ ê-kîšikânik, mîna mâka kotak pâyakwâ ê-kîšikânik, mêmîskoc ê-n'taminahocik, ê-n'tawâpahtahkik kêkwâniw kê-mîcicik.
wâpošwa manâ mâka nôcihêwak mêkwâc ê-piponinik. ê'kwânimênîw mâwac wêhci-pimâcihowâkopanê mêkwâc ê-piponinik.
- 3 pâyakwâ manâ mâka kihtohtêw 'wa pâyak nâpêw kêkišêpâyânik, ê-n'tawâpamât wâpošwa.
wîpac manâ mâka kâ-kihtohtêw wayêš nišo-tipahikan¹ kâ-itâpicit. âšay manâ piko wêhci-pêci-takošihk.²
kiskên'tamwak manâ mâka aniki k'-âpicik wayêš ê-k'-ihtin'ci, wîpac wêhci-pêci-kîwên'ci.³ ê-pêci-pihtokwêt manâ mâka, 'toni⁴ manâ mîhkowanîniw animênîw pâyak ocihciy.
ana manâ mâka kotak nâpêw wîpac manâ kakwêcimêw: "tâni kâ-ihtiyân mâka êko?" manâ itêw. "tân' êhki' wêhci-mîhkowahk kicihciy?" manâ itêw.
"oh, n'kî-mâkomik ôw' wâpoš," manâ itwêw ana kotak nâpêw kâ-takošihk. pâhpihanîw manâ mâka ana kotak nâpêw kâ-tipâcimostawâkaniwit.
"tântê kê-kî-ohci-mâkomisk wâpoš?" manâ itwêw. "môna wîskâc mâkohcîkêw wâpoš, – môna mâka wîskâc mâkomêw 'wênihkâna," manâ itwêw ana nâpêw. pâhpihêw manâ mâka wîci-nâpêwa.
- 4 "tântê wêhci-kî-tôtaman wêhci-kî-mâkomisk?" manâ itwêw ..., išî-kakwêcimêw anihi nâpêwa.
"oh, pimâtisiw," manâ itwêw, "ê-wâpamak ê-apit nakwâkanihk," manâ itwêw. "kî-sakîkâtêpisok'an,⁵ êko mâka pimâtisiw kiyâpac, kâ-otihtak," manâ itwêw.
"niwî-at'-otinâw mâka," manâ itwêw; " 'kwâni mâk' ê-pêci-mâko-wêpamit," manâ itwêw.

- 1 This account is called a tale of blasphemy and requital.
This is the way little children are taught not to laugh at anyone else who is in trouble. The story as it is told teaches a lesson, as the children hear it so they may know from it not to abuse their fellow-children or fellow-men.
- 2 Once again then, long ago, there were apparently two families of people staying together for the winter. They went after fish during the winter, and rabbits, setting snares from which they made their living. They went off hunting in turn one, one day, and again the other for one day, hunting turn and turn about as they went after something to eat.
They hunted rabbits during the winter. That was, it would appear, the most they had to live on during the winter-time.
- 3 Now then, this one man went away one time in the morning, going after rabbits.
He left early and was away for about two hours. He arrived back before he was expected.
Those who were sitting there knew that he had had some trouble, and that was why he had come home early. But when he came in, one of his hands was all covered with blood.
The other man quickly asked him, "What happened to you, then? What happened that your hand is bloody?" he said.
"Oh, I was bitten by this rabbit," said the other man who had arrived.
At that the man who had been told the story burst into laughter. "How can a rabbit bite you?" he said. "A rabbit never bites; isn't it so that a rabbit never bites anybody?" said that man. And he laughed at his companion.
- 4 "What did you do that he bit you?" he said ..., he asked the first man.
"Oh, he was alive," he replied, "as I saw him sitting in the snare," he said. "He was snared by the leg; and so he was still alive when I got to him," he said.
"I was just about to take him," he said. "Then he took a quick bite at me."
The other man laughed. He laughed at him as hard as he could.

pâhpiw man' âna kotak nâpêw. kê-'nikohk manâ pâhpihêw.

"cikêmânima, cikêmânima kí-mâkomik ê-pohcikônêwênât wâpoš," manâ itwêw. "môna wês' âni wîskât mâkohcikêw wâpoš, kwayask wîna ê-tôcikâtêk," manâ itwêw. kê-'nikohk manâ pâhpihêw wîc'-îniwiwa anim' ê-k'-îhtin'c'.

5 kišîmâkaniwan manâ mâka ana kotak ana nâpêw kâ-kî-takošihk.

"êko is' âni," manâ itwêw. "êškwâ nêsta kîna ka-wâpahtên pâyakwâ," manâ itwêw. "mâškôc nêsta kîna ka-mâkomik wâpoš," manâ itwêw.

"hâ, cikêmânima!" manâ itwêw. "pohcikônêwênakê 'sa wîna wâpoš n'ka-mâkomik," itwêw.

'kwâni manâ mâka tâpw' êši-kisiwâsit ana kâ-kî-takošihk. kišîmâkaniwan man' âni mâka kí-pâhpihâkaniwan.

nihtâ-mitêwah... -man'tôhkêwâkapan⁶ wêsa mâk' aniki 'wênihkânak wêskac. nihtâ-man'toh ... -man'tôhkâtítowak. 'kwâni manâ mâka kê-tôtawât anihi kâ-kî-pâhpihikot ê-kî-kišîmikot. ta-mitêhkâtêw.

6 âšay manâ mîna ê-'ti-wâpaninik, nêsta wîn' êko kê-kihtohtêt nâha kotak nâpêw.

âšay manâ wîpac ê-kihtohtêt ê-kišêpâyânik pâyak manâ nakiškawêw wâpošwa, – kâ-pêci-pim'pahtân'ci manâ.

twoyéhk manâ mâka piko pâskiswêw wîpac, ê-pêci-pim'pahtân'ci.

wîpac manâ piko mîn' âšay nišo pêci-nakiškâkow; mîna manâ piko 'kwân' êši-pâskiswât nišo.

âšay manâ piko mîna wîpac ê-'ti-pimohtêt, kâ-pêci-nistopahâtâcik manâ wâpošwak. pêci-nakiškâkow.

kiyâpac manâ mâka kaškihtâw ê-pâskiswât 'nistin'ci.

kêka manâ mâka piko pêci-nêwiwak. kaškihtâw manâ mâka kiyâpac ê-pâskiswât ê-nêwin'c'.

kêka manâ piko mihcêtiniwa 'pêci-nakiškâkot. kaškihtâw mâka kiyâpac misiwê 'ci-pâskiswât, pwâmoših nakiškâkot, pwâmoš' otihtikot.

kêka manâ mitoni pêci-mihcêtiwak ê-pêci-pim'pahitocik⁷ wâpošwak.

7 kiyâpac manâ pimohtêw.

n'tawâc manâ otinam mistikoniw ê-kinwâskwaninik. ê'kwânimêniw manâ mâk' ê-âpacihtât ê-otatâmahwât, ê-wî-kakwê-nipahât misiwê pwâmoši pêci-otihtikot.

kêka manâ mâka mitoni ayêskosiw. môna kí-tôtam misiwê 'ci-nipahât wêsâ 'î-mihcêtin'c'.

"Of course, of course the rabbit bit you since you shoved your hand in his mouth," he said. "You know a rabbit never bites when the thing is properly done," he said. Then he laughed at his companion for all he was worth, that he had had that misfortune.

5 Then that other man who had arrived back was angered.

"That's enough," he said. "You too, you'll see one day yet," he said. "Perhaps a rabbit will bite you too," he observed.

"Ha, naturally," rejoined the other one. "If I put my hand in his mouth, to be sure the rabbit will bite me," he said.

At that point the one who had come back really got angry. He was offended and he was being laughed at.

They were apparently good at conjur..., at casting spells, those old-time people. They were good at casting sp..., casting spells on each other. So that's what he was going to do to the one who had laughed at him, because he had angered him. He would conjure him.

6 Now then as it was beginning to dawn again, that other man too was then going to go away himself.

Now, as he was going away early in the morning, he met up with a certain rabbit, – which came running towards him.

Right away he shot him as soon as he ran towards him there.

Soon two more came to meet him. Once again then, he just shot them both on the spot.

Now, soon afterwards, as he was walking along again, three rabbits came running towards him. They were coming to meet him.

Again he managed to shoot them, all three.

Then at last four came towards him. He was still able to shoot them even though there were four of them.

Then finally, there were a great many coming to meet him. He was still able to shoot them all before they met him, before they got to him.

Then at last the rabbits were utterly numberless as they came running towards him together.

7 Still he walked along.

Then he took a long stick. Using that he struck out at them in his anxiety to kill them all before they reached him.

But at last he became tired out. He couldn't kill them all because there were too many of them.

Finally they came and bit him again and again on his legs.

kéka manâ máka pēci-māmākomikow anta oskātihk.
wī-kakwē-mis... wī-kakwē-nipahēw manâ máka misiwē mōna manâ
kī-tōtam.

'kwāni manâ māk' ét'-iši-māmākomikot oskātihk, êká 'kī-cākinipahāt.

'kwāni manâ kēk' eti-pahkišihk anta mostaskamihk mostākonak,
k'-ēnikohk ē-māmākomikot.

'kwāni manâ máka k'-āt'-isi-kitamohikot anihī wāpošwa pātīmā, oskana
pišišik ē-pimihtin'nikī. 'kwāni kâ-išī-nipahikot.

8 animēniw manâ máka ē-'ti-tipiskānik, mōna ohci-pēci-kīwēw
wīkīhk.

pēhikow manâ wīwa.

"šā," manâ itwēw ana iskwēw. "tānika kâ-ihkikwē nināpēm êká
wāhci-pēci-kīwēt,"⁸ manâ itwēw.

ana manâ máka kâ-kī-pāhpahākaniwit kiskēn'tam tāni kâ-ihk'ci
anihī n..., nāpēwa, wīn' ē-kī-mitēhkātāt, ē-kī-kīšimikot.

"oh, māškōc isa wāpaninikē ta-takošin," manâ itwēw. "māškōc
kī-mākomikow wāpošwa êká 'hci-takošihk,"⁹ manâ itēw anih' iskwēwa.

9 wiyāpaninik manâ máka. āšay tāpwē namatēw ana nāpēw. mōna
ohci-pēci-kīwēw.

ēkw isa manâ itēw anih' iskwēwa ē-kī-nakatākaniwīn'ci "ēkw isa n'tawāc
nawahātātā," manâ itwēw. "māhti, wāpahtāt'..., wāpahtātā tāni kâ-ihkikwē,"
manâ itwēw.

'kwāni manâ tāpw' ēši-kihkōhtēcik wēyāpaninik. wīcēwēw anih' iskwēwa
ē-wī-wāpahtinamohāt tāni kâ-ihk'ci anihī nāpēwa.

'kwāni manâ máka tāpwē kâ-otihtācik anta kâ-k'-iši-nipahikon'ci wāpošwa.
mošē manâ pik' ōskana pimihtinwa kōnihk. 'kwāni máka
ēspīhci-kostātikwahk pāstāmowin itwāniwan, ē-kī-pāstāmot ana nāpēw
ē-kī-pāhpihāt anihī kâ-kī-mākomikon'ci¹⁰ wāpošwa.

'kwāni piko ēskwāpīhkēyāk.

He wanted to try all ..., and then he wanted to try to kill them all; but he
was unable to do it.

Then he was bitten all over the legs since he hadn't been able to finish
killing them.

Then finally he began to fall down there on the bare ground, on top of the
bare snow, utterly chewed up.

And then those rabbits ate him all up in no time, until nothing but the
bones were lying there. That's the way they killed him.

8 Then as it was beginning to get dark, he hadn't returned home.

His wife waited for him.

"Oh my!" said the woman. "I wonder what must have happened to my
husband that he hasn't come home."

The one who had been ridiculed, however, knew what had befallen that
m..., man, since he had conjured him because he had been offended by him.

"Oh, he'll probably arrive tomorrow, I imagine," he said. "Maybe he got
bitten by a rabbit and that's why he hasn't arrived," he suggested to the
woman.

9 The next day dawned. Sure enough, that man didn't turn up. He did not
come home.

Then he said to that woman who had been left, "I guess we'd better track
him down. Come on, let's see ..., let's see what's happened to him," he said.

That's what they did, setting off in the morning. He went with the woman
since he wanted to let her see what had happened to that man.

Then, sure enough, they reached him at the place where the rabbits had
killed him. Only his bones lay bare on the snow. And that is how dreadful a
blasphemy is, they say, because that man had said something which came
back on him in that he had ridiculed the one who had been bitten by the
rabbit.

That is the length of the story.