

## ayamihitowin

- 1 HL: tántê ..., tán' êhtiyêkohan ani nêtê kilawâw wásâhk<sup>1</sup> kâ-ihâyêkohan, mêkwâc kâ-wici-tašihkematipan ê-n'taw'hot kôhtâwiy, êlin? tánt' anih kâ-išilawiyêkohan ..., kâ-pêci-takošiniyêkohan péyakwâ ôta, ê-'wâšišiwiyan ..., n'tawâš'šwihtay nîla nimis kâ-kanawêlimispan.  
EM: m... hm.  
HL: tántê máka kâ-išilawiyêkohan wêhci-kî-takošiniyêkohan anta kilawâw piko kâ-takošiniyêk?
- 2 EM: môla wî-pêc'-itôhtêw *Christmas*. "itôhtêta kil'anaw máka," n'tik ana nimis. "nôsônêhwâtânak ôko kâ-kihtohtêcik k'stêsinaawak," itwêw. êkw 'sa máka, "kayâm," n'titâw. "kihtohtêta. kîšinawatâtâw 'sa, pitamá mâmâš kôhtâwinaw pwâmoših kihtohtêyahk máka," n'titâw. n'kîšinawatânân máka. misiwê 'kwân' kwayêsk n'tôtam'wânân. n'kî-pêci-kihtohtânân âšay. 'mahtakwan cikahikan. kâ-mišâk<sup>2</sup> piko cikahikan ihtakwan. êkwânimêliw wêtinahk nimis, m'pêci-kihtohtânân. ê-'htâyâhk anta, kâ-mišikiti asiniy,<sup>3</sup> âšay n'tatiminêhwânânâk<sup>4</sup> ôko nistês.<sup>5</sup> "tá' êhtiyêk?" itwêw. môla n'kî-whci-'yamihânânâk. n'kâsohtawânânâk [laughs].<sup>6</sup>
- 3 HL: [interrupts] ... ta-kî-pêci-kihtohtêpanak, ot' âni, 'nik' ililiwak.<sup>7</sup> êhê ...,  
EM: n'nipânân anta. ninipânân anta ê-nîšiyâhk. pâtimâ anta, nêtitišihk anta pâtimâ n'kî-wâpamânânâk.  
HL: kî-pêci-nîkâni-kihtohtêwak man' âni wilawâw.  
EM: êko máka, n'tik nistês: "tántê kôhtâwîwâw?"  
"n'kî-nakatânân. môla wî-pêci-kihtohtêw. môla w'-itôhtêw ihtâwinihk *Christmas*. nîlanân máka m'pêci-kihtohtânân. n'têhtapihikon ...<sup>8</sup> têhtapihâkaniwan máka wîla. môla nîla n'tôtinikawin. m'pim'pahtân nîla."  
HL: kimis mériy otinâkaniwan.
- 4 EM: nimis piko mériy otinâkaniwan. m'pim'pahtân nîla. êko mâk' êtwêw: "otinam animêliw ocîkahikaniwâw," itâkaniwan wîliy nistês. "tánt' ot' ôk' êtohtêcik?" "n'taw'-nôtâhtikwêwak manâ ô pîhtawânâkâhk,"<sup>9</sup> itwêw wîla âncipêl [laughs].<sup>10</sup>  
HL: ... ê-mâlêlimitâk.  
EM: ê... hê.  
HL: êkâ '-ocîkahikaniyêk mâk' ani šâkoc.

## A conversation

- 1 HL: How ..., What happened to you folks while you were staying at Hannah Bay, while you were living with your father as he was hunting, Ellen? What had you been up to ... that you had arrived here once when I was a child ..., I was a child when my older sister used to take care of me?  
EM: M-hm.  
HL: What had happened to you that led you to come when only you folks arrived?
- 2 EM: He wasn't going to come at Christmas. But my older sister said to me, "Let's go, you and me. Let's follow our older brothers who are going away," she said. So then I said to her, "All right. Let's go; but let's hurry and cook up some things first for our father before we leave," I said to her. And we cooked for him. We did everything properly for him. Now then, we left to come. There was no axe there. There was only the big axe. With my older sister taking that one, we came away. By the time we were at Big Stone we had already caught up with them, including my older brother. "What's wrong with you two?" he said. We didn't speak to them. We hid from them [laughs].
- 3 HL: [interrupts] ... Those people ought to have left to come anyway.  
Yes ...  
EM: We slept there. We slept there, the two of us. Bye and bye there, bye and bye we saw them there at Netitishi.  
HL: They had come away in advance.  
EM: And then, my older brother said to me, "Where is your father?"  
"We left him. He didn't want to come away. He didn't want to go to the settlement for Christmas. But we've left to come. I got a ride ... she got a ride, though. But I wasn't taken. I ran along."  
HL: Your older sister, Mary, was taken.
- 4 EM: Only my older sister, Mary, was taken. I ran along. And he said, "Take that axe of theirs," – my older brother, Willie, was told. "Where are these two going?" "They're off logging to Peehtawanagaw," said Archibald [laughs].  
HL: ... just teasing you.  
EM: Uh-huh.  
HL: Because you two sure didn't own an axe.

- EM: m'pêci-pim'pahtân tašinê nila. pim'pahákaniwan wíl' otâpânâskohk.  
kêka n'kí-wâpamâw oškinikiw, cîmis n'téhtapihik otôtâpânâskohk.  
n'takošininân ôta. kâ-níši-kišikák wéhci-takošihk awa nôhtâwiw.  
pâhpiw. m'pâhpihikonân. m'pâhpinân nêsta nilanân.
- 5 HL: tân' êtisk mâk' ana cîmis mêkwác ê-pêci-ayéskosiwat êy-otâpâtisk?  
EM: tâni piko?  
HL: manâ kit..., manâ kitayâwâhtay? môla mâtâna<sup>11</sup> wayêš ihkin ...!  
EM: nila ê'kwân' ispiš kâ-wí-tipácimoyân.  
HL: a? a! [interruption]<sup>12</sup>  
EM: ôma ispiš kê-wihtamâtân.  
HL: êhê ...  
EM: môla wîla ...  
HL: ê'kwân' êskwák ê-'tácimoyin anima ...  
EM: êhê.

- EM: *I ran along all the time. She was carried on the sled.*  
Finally I saw a young fellow, James [pseudonym]. He gave me a seat  
on his sled. We arrived here. On the second day my father suddenly  
arrived. He laughed. He laughed at us. We laughed too.
- 5 HL: But what did James there say to you while you were tired as he was  
hauling you?  
EM: Who knows?  
HL: Didn't you ..., didn't you have him as a boyfriend? There's nothing  
wrong with that ...!  
EM: That's as much as *I'm* going to tell.  
HL: Oh? Oh! [interruption]  
EM: This is as much as I'll tell you.  
HL: Yes.  
EM: Not about that.  
HL: Then that's the extent of your story.  
EM: Yes.