

## Q'7ál'men i músmusa The hungry cows<sup>1</sup>

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### Original

O, nilh ts7a huz' nsqweqwl'entúmulh—sqweqwl'entsín,  
Qwéqwl'entsas ti nsqátsez7a. Wá7wit smúsmus i nts'éts'p7a múta7 ti nkúkw7a.  
Cw7it i musmusíha. Nilh t'u7 sas lan wa7 sútik. Nilh t'u7 smáqa7s, kelá7 cw7it,  
lan t'u7 wa7 cw7it [i] smáqa7sa. Nilh t'u7 stsut.s ti nts'éts'p'7a, “Áma ku náslap  
cwíl'en i músmusa, lan wa7 q'7ál'menwit.” Kekáw', kewkékw' káku7  
lt.swá7iha. Nilh t'u7 stsícwi, nilh snsqátsza7 múta7 ti núkwa t'u7 *brother-in-*  
*law*, s*Wattie*. Nilh t'u7 aylh ti núkwa *brother-in-law*. Nilh aylh ti núkwa, wa7  
tsúnem aoz kws huz' nas, kwikws7úl. Nilh t'u7 sas tsúntas, nilh stsut.s  
nsqátsez7a, “*oh, big baby*,” tsúnas. Pakwwitá tu7, lhumúnitas i *snowshoes*. Nilh  
t'u7 slhumúnitas i [*snowshoes*]. Pakwwitá tu7, cwíl'enitas i músmusa. Kelá7  
cín', pala7 k'á t'u7 sq'it, lan t'u7 wa7 gap lht'iq.wit aylh. Takemstwítas t'u7.  
T'iq i músmusa wa7 wá7 káku7 q'7ál'men. Nilh ti7.

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## English translation

Oh, I'm going to tell you this story, My father told it to me. My grandfather and grandmother had cows, they had a lot of cows. One time it was already winter. It had already snowed a whole lot. My grandfather said, "It would be good if you all go look for the cows, they must be hungry." Some were far, some were scattered around even further. So they went, my father and one of my brothers-in-law, Wattie. There was another brother-in-law. He was told that he wasn't going to go, he was too small. And so my father told me, my father said, "Oh, big baby." They set off to put on snowshoes. They put them on. They set off to look for the cows. It was a long time, must have been a whole day, it was evening when they came back. They got all of them. The cows that were hungry came back. That's it.

## Grammatical analysis

- (1) O nilh ts7a huz'  
oh FOC DEMON going.to

n=sqwe•qw•l'-en-túmulh  
1SG.POSS=tell.a.story•CRED•-DIR-2PL.OBJ

sqwe•qw•l'-en-tsín,  
tell.a.story•CRED•-DIR-2SG.OBJ  
'O, I'm going to tell you this story,'

- (2) Qwé•qw•l'-en-ts-as  
tell.a.story•CRED•-DIR-1SG.OBJ-3ERG

ti=n-sqátsez7=a.  
DET=1SG.POSS-father=EXIS  
'My father told it to me.'

- (3) Wá7=wit s-músmus i=n-ts'éts'p7=a  
IMPF=3PL STAT-cow DET.PL=1SG.POSS-grandfather=EXIS

múta7 ti=n-kúk7=a cw7it  
and DET=1SG.POSS-grandmother=EXIS many

i=musmus-íh=a.  
DET.PL=cow-3PL.POSS=EXIS  
'My grandfather and grandmother had cows, they had a lot of cows.'

- (4) Nílh=t'u7 s=wa7=s lan wa7 sútik.  
FOC=just NOM=IMPF=3POSS already IMPF winter  
'One time it was already winter.'

- (5) Nílh=t'u7 s=máqa7=s kelá7 cw7it lán=t'u7  
FOC=just NOM=snow=3POSS first many already=just

wa7 cw7it [ti]=s=máqa7-s=a.  
IMPF many [DET.SG=]NOM=snow-3POSS=EXIS  
'It had already snowed a whole lot.'

- (6) Nílh=t'u7 s=tsut.=s ti=n-ts'éts'p7=a  
FOC=just NOM=say=3POSS DET=1SG.POSS-grandfather=EXIS

“Áma ku=nás=lap cwíl'-en i=músmus=a  
good DET=go=2PL.POSS look.for-DIR DET.PL=cow=EXIS

lan wa7 q'7-ál'men=wit."  
 already IMPF eat-want=3PL  
 'My grandfather said, "It would be good if you all go look for the cows,  
 they must be hungry."'

- (7) Kekáw' •kew•ké•k•ew' káku7  
 far •TRED•far•CRED• DEIC

l=t.=s=wá7=i=ha.  
 PREP=DET=NOM=be=3PL.POSS=EXIS  
 'Some were far, some were scattered around even further.'

- (8) Nílh=t'u7 s=tsícw=i nilh  
 FOC=just NOM=arrive=3PL.POSS FOC

s=n-sqátsza7 múta7 ti=núkw=a=t'u7  
 NOM=1SG.POSS-father and DET=other=EXIS=just

*brother-in-law*, s=Wattie.  
*brother-in-law* NOM=Wattie  
 'So they went, my father and one of my brothers-in-law, Wattie.'

- (9) Nílh=t'u7 aylh ti=núkw=a *brother-in-law*.  
 FOC=just then DET=other=EXIS *brother-in-law*  
 'There was another brother-in-law.'

- (10) Nilh aylh ti=núkw=a, wa7 tsún-em  
 FOC then DET=other=EXIS IMPF say(DIR)-3PASS

aoz kw=s=huz' nas, kwikws-7úl.  
 NEG DET=NOM=going.to go small-too.much  
 'He was told that he wasn't going to go, he was too small.'

- (11) Nílh=t'u7 s=wa7=s tsún-ts-as, nilh  
 FOC=just NOM=IMPF=3POSS say(DIR)-1SG.OBJ-3ERG FOC

s=tsut.=s n-sqátsez7=a  
 NOM=say=3POSS 1SG.POSS-father=EXIS

"oh big baby" tsún-as.  
*oh big baby* say(DIR)-3ERG  
 'And so my father told me—my father said, "Oh, big baby."'

- (12) Pakw=wit-á=tu7 lhum-un-ítas  
 set.off=3PL-CIRC=then put.on-DIR-3PL.ERG

i=*snowshoes*.

DET.PL=*snowshoes*

‘They set off to put on snowshoes.’

- (13) Nílh=t’u7 s=lhum-un-ítas i=[*snowshoes*].  
FOC=just NOM=put.on-DIR-3PL.ERG DET.PL=[*snowshoes*]  
‘They put them on.’
- (14) Pakw=wit-á=tu7 cwil’-en-ítas  
set.off=3PL-CIRC=then look-DIR-3PL.ERG  
  
i=músmus=a.  
DET.PL=cow=EXIS  
‘They set off to look for the cows.’
- (15) Kelá7 cin’, pala7=k’á=t’u7 sq’it.  
first long.time one=EPIS=just day  
‘It was a long time, a whole day.’
- (16) Lán=t’u7 wa7 gap lh=t’iq=wit aylh.  
already=just IMPF evening COMP=arrive=3PL then  
‘It was evening when they came back.’
- (17) Takem-s-twítas=t’u7.  
all-CAUS-3PL.ERG=just  
‘They got all of them.’
- (18) T’iq i=músmus=a wa7 wá7 káku7 q’7-ál’men.  
arrive DET.PL=cow=EXIS IMPF be DEIC eat-want  
‘The cows that were hungry came back.’
- (19) Nílh=ti7.  
FOC=DEMON  
‘That’s it.’

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