



KUCHÉIN FRANK ITALIO

Shangukeidí · Yaakwdáat K̄wáan

YÉIL KA DU KÁAK

Raven and His Uncle

RECORDED: August 29, 1952 in Yakutat by Kuxaankutaan Fredrica de Laguna

TRANSLATION: K̄eixwnéi Nora Marks Dauenhauer, X̄'aagi Sháawu Keri Eggleston, Dzéiwsh James Crippen, Kaxwaan Éesh George Davis, Shaksháani Marge Dutson, and X̄'unei Lance Twitchell,

Introduction:

This recording was made by Frederica de Laguna in 1952 during her research in Yakutat. The original audio tape was her reel 4 side 2 (De Laguna 1972: 848) and the digitized recording is identified today as APSdigrec_0617 (audio:6865) which is part of Frederica de Laguna's records deposited at the American Philosophical Society (APS) in Philadelphia. The recording quality is extraordinarily good given the era. Present at the time were Frederica de Laguna and her interpreter Ts'owdálé Minnie Johnson (L'uknax̄.ádi). Minnie Johnson provided an English abstract of this performance to Frederica de Laguna on

2 September 1952 which is published in de Laguna's Under Mount Saint Elias (De Laguna 1972: 848–851). The tape ran out after about 24 minutes so that Kuchéin Frank Italo stopped at the episode where Raven tricks his partner Haayík Ooxú whom he creates from bamboo driftwood. Kuchéin Frank Italo took up this story again on 13 September 1952 which de Laguna recorded as her reel 7 side 2 and which is identified today as APSdigrec_0627 (audio:6874) in the APS archives.

Kuchéin starts out with the Raven & His Uncle story and transitions immediately into Raven Who Went Down Among the Bull Kelp.

Shkalneek:

Yéil adátx'ix siteeyi át	Raven is a child thing	
ka yú dís,	and that moon,	
MJ: Dé yaa kanalník áwé.	MJ: He's already telling it.	
yú dís áyú,	it's that moon	
du káakx sitee,	that is his uncle,	5
yá lingit'aaní káx' kwa yéi yatee	but here in this world it's the moon.	
yú dís.		
Tléil yú dikéex wusxáat'.	It wasn't suspended up above in the sky.	
Haaw.	Well.	
X'agáx átχ kkwasanéek áwé,	I'm going to tell it like I was asked, that's	
ách áyá i toowú xáawé, ách	what you wanted, so now not...	
áwé tlél...		
MJ: Yá a tóode yoo	MJ: You should speak into this, tell it into	10
x'eeyatánk áwé, tle a káa yaa	this [reel-to-reel tape recorder].	
kakgeelnéek.		
Aaá.	Okay.	
Áwé,	So,	
yá t'átgi káa yéi teeyí,	when he was on the land,	
yú dís ku.aa,	this moon,	
ldakát lingit'aan daakwáanich	everything inhabiting the world was	15
áyú du jée akawdlíxéitl'.	afraid of him.	
Yá kées'	The tide,	

du jeenáx kawuhaaýích.	he had authority over it.	
Yookis'kookéik yóo áyú duwasáakw, yú dís.	He's called Yookis'kookéik, that moon.	
Lingitch ¹ yéi yasaakw	Tlingit people call him	
Yookis'kookéik.	Yookis'kookéik.	20
Áwé,	So	
áwé, yá t'átgi káa yéi teeyí áwé,	so, it's when he was on this land,	
du dlaak' jéex' tlél yát awuswáat.	his sister didn't have children to raise.	
Du dlaak' kudzitee.	He had a sister.	
Tle áwé kunastéeni, yéi áwé	When one is born, it's then	25
du gooǰú yéi ayanaskéich.	that his slave would tell of it.	
Ldakát yá lingit'aan daakwáani	He had made all of the world's	
áyá gooǰúǰ awliyéx,	inhabitants into his slaves,	
yú dís.	this moon.	
Yú du jée akoolxéitl' yá kées'	They're afraid of him, afraid of this tide,	
akoolxéitl' ku.aa áyú yéi kaawagei.	he's just so huge.	
Ch'u tle ch'a aadóo sá yéi	Whomever he's telling	30
yawsikaa		
tle du jeex goot,	they walk into his hands,	
tle ch'a hú.	him.	
Áwé	So	
áx' áwé	there	
yéi yaawaakaa	he said it	35
yú du dlaak'.	his sister.	
Wáa nanée sáwé	At some point	
hóoch'x wusitee du yátx'i, ch'u	her children had become none,	
tle yá		
gooǰx' áwé yéi ayanaskéich.	he had told his slaves thus.	
« Aadé naý.á!	"You all go there!"	40
Daa sáyú koowdzitee? »	What has been born over there?"	
« Káa áyú. »	"It's a man"	

« Agajaak.	“So kill it.”	
Agajaak » tle yóo	Kill it.” he	
aḃanaskéich,	says,	45
du dlaak’ aadé akunaḃéich.	he says to his sister.	
Du x’ayáx áwé tle oojaakch;	She killed it according to his	
	instructions;	
tsú yú du dlaak’ du jée	his sister was also afraid of him,	
akawdlíxéitl’,		
yú kéés’.	that tide.	
Ách	That’s why	50
tle oojaakch wé shaawát,	she just killed it, that woman,	
du yádi.	her child.	
Káax wusteeyí	Whether it was a man,	
tsú shaawátx sateeyí	or it was a woman,	
yéi kawduneegí	when it was announced	55
yú du shát eedé	to his wife	
ḃax ḃagaxḃuskáa.	his wife is going to be informed.	
Ách áwé ch’u tle tsu oojaakch	That’s why they would kill the child	
	again,	
tle yú shaawát tsú	the woman would too,	
du x’ayáx.	as he instructed.	60
Tléel ku.aa áyú ín yéi du x’ool’	Not this one, though, she had flint in her	
yáa woonaa tsú.	stomach and didn’t die.	
Áyá x’adzigun xá « tle ganú! »	And then she spoke out, "sit down!"	
Yáat’aa.	This one.	
De tsú áwé tsú aadé kdunik yé	This is why it is told that way,	
áyá		
du x’ayáx áyú,	as he said,	65
du x’éix áyú akoowdlíxéitl’ yú	she was afraid of what he would say,	
yú du dlaak’ ku.aa.	his sister.	
Aadáx áwé	After that	
wáa nanée sáwé	at some point	

hóoch' du yát du jeet shuwaxíx.	her children were gone, they died off from her.	70
« Éi-ei áyá-a-a! ² »	"He-ey a-a-aw!"	
X'aaluká áwé	Out on that point of land,	
áa gáx nooch	there she cries,	
wé shaawát.	that woman.	
X'aaluká.	Out on that point of land.	75
Wáa nanée sáyú kéet du eedé yáa yaawagóo.	At some point a killerwhale swims towards her.	
Tle yanax xánde akaawanáa wé aankáawuch.	That nobleman was sent to her.	
Gushtuwool	Gushtuwool [Hole in the Dorsal Fin]	
yóo duwasáakw.	is what he is called,	
Kéet aankáawu.	He's a killerwhale nobleman.	80
De at gáa yan uwakúx,	He came ashore for something,	
tle ash xán ayú uwagút.	he goes up next to her.	
« Wáa sáyá x'ayeeká yáat? »	"What are you saying here?"	
« Aaa, ax yátx'u sáani ax jeetx shuwaxíx, ch'a aankáawu.	"Aww, all my children have died out, it's that nobleman.	
Hóoch'. »	They're gone."	85
Hasdu ítde á yéi x'ayaaká.	She says towards them,	
« Yú ax éek' x'ayáx ayú. »	"they did what my brother told them to."	
Awsikóo hóoch ku.aa	He knows them, though,	
yú kées' du jeenáx kawuhaayí.	he controls the tide.	
Tléil wáa sá awuskaaayí áwé ch'u tle.	He says then, "it's okay."	90
Aan	With it,	
aan wudzigeet	he did it with it,	
du kinaak.ádi tle kaax kei awditée.	it's like he put a jacket on her.	
Yú du doogú áyá ch'u shóogu lingítx sitee.	That skin of his is the same as a jacket to people.	
Yú Gushtuwool ku.a.	This Gushtuwool.	95

Tle wé shaawát tin áwé ch'a géide s wudzigeet tle.	With this woman, yes, he did this to her.	
Haaw, aatx áwé ÿan aýawsikáa:	Well, after that he told her:	
« Yá ts'ootaatx' ÿan wulaayí ch'u tle yú kéés'.	"This evening the tide will go all the way down.	100
Kéés' aadax láa ÿé aadé áwé kgeegóot.	From the place the tide goes out that's where you're going to go.	
Áx' xá ách kugéetées'!	Really keep an eye out for it there.	
Tle aax yík áa yéi koogwéiyi.	Then take one out that is about this big.	
Dakde dagú, ch'u tle k'idéin	Walk back up towards the land, and just at that moment carefully	105
aatx kei kgeetée.	carry it up there.	
Tle ganká daak gageetée.	You'll put it in the fire.	
Gankax' áwé kgisat'áa.	You'll heat it up in the fire.	
Kúnax k'ex yax yawut'aayí áwé tsá	Just when it's really good and warm,	
tle ilaxwén tle kgeenóot'.	then you'll spoon it out and then swallow it.	110
Tléil x'éix kgidanook. »	You won't taste it."	
Yóo áwé ash daayaká.	That's what he said to her.	
Ayax áwé yéi jeewanei wé shaawát.	So she worked on it as he had said, that woman.	
Aaa,	Well,	
keina.áa	at daybreak,	115
keix'é áwé sh wudzixát	she was ready for the dawn.	
Yéi ÿan kawlikúx wé kéés'.	The tide dried out.	
« L yaa nagúdi áyá gé awsiteen áwé tayee kook'aayí té?	"You'll stop walking when you see that little rock underneath it.	
Ch'a k'wát' yax kúhát daa kdidúk tle.	Then feel around one that is round and see if it is solid.	
Tle a xáni daak daak uwagút tle gankáa daak aawatée. »	Then walk up next to the fire and put it onto the fire."	120

Gankáa daak atée áwé	She put it on the fire.	
Keix'éex aawadáa dé wsikóo ch'as s'éik.	She watched the dawn and knew when the fire was just smoke.	
A yáanax yaawatsák tsú daa sá, áwé tle daak akawagix'i.	She was poking the fire with something, and then threw that onto the fire.	125
Tléil x'éiwdanooqú áwé tle aawanóot'.	She didn't taste it when she swallowed it.	
Goosú ch'a x'éi yáa ch'a yéi l x'eiwduunooqún.	Where was it, maybe just in her mouth, but she just couldn't taste it.	
Hóoch'.	That's all.	
tle tléil du yíkde tuwunook tsú.	She didn't feel it inside herself either.	
Du yík uwut'aayí áyú aadé tukgwanóogu daa tuwatee.	She thought she would feel something warm inside.	130
Tléik'.	Nope.	
É-e-e-e-e wáa nanée sáwé, desgwách, dís, du dísi yaa shunaxix. dís yaa nas.át.	Well ... at some point, already, her moon, she stopped menstruating.	135
Áyá tsá hóoch'i aa yawdzikeen.	The months are passing. And the last one was just on the new moon.	
Aaa, tlél yee éek' wakshiyeex' ku.aa.	Yes, not in front of your brother.	
Yá kstí ch'as i yátx' x'wán uwan.óowu yisakéik! wé du yádák'u.	This life, just don't pay for it with the life of your children! her boys.	140
Aadáx áwé áwé ch'a yan t'éix' áwé du.oo.	And from that she had the baby and kept it hidden from him.	
Tle tlél tsú du toowú tín tsú tle tsá wéit'át toowú kwshéwé du eet wudashéeyi.	Then too, she didn't want she didn't want to be around anyone who was helping her brother.	145
Desgwách yaa nawát,	He is already growing up,	

desgwách yaa nawát.	he grew up fast.	
Ch'a ÿan t'éix' áwé yaa naswát.	She raised him away from her brother.	
Du xánt du.aa tsú du éet goox'ú, tléik',	They came by her, those slaves of her brother, but no,	
a waaknák wuls'ínch.	she hid her baby from them.	150
Wáa nanée sáwé desgwách at'úkt wé neil.	At some point he is already shooting a bow and arrow around their home.	
Áwé tsá wé gáx akanasteech wéinÿa teix'	Only when he saw a rabbit, he would grab his bow and arrow	
áa t'útkt wé neil.	and shoot it at their home.	
Yax at gakú tle ÿan áwé dé yáx áwé ÿatee.	It became like a proverb when it was over.	
É!	Oh my!	155
Tle káax sateeyí áwé,	Then he was a man,	
Yéi áwé ch'a hú chooneit	it was him, a bow and arrow,	
tle ash yées awliyéx tle	he made a new one	
ÿan alyéx dáx áwé	When he was done making it,	
woogoot	he walked,	160
aan nagútch.	he went walking with it.	
Wáa nanée sáwé	At some point,	
x'éigaa	for real,	
át uwat'úk	he shot something.	
Ch'a wéidu hú, gáaxw,	He's right there, a duck,	165
Áwé aawat'úk.	he shot it.	
Dé s een du kaawanúk yú du káak aadé yéi jineiyi yé	With them he felt the way his uncle worked.	
Du tláach ku.aa.	His mother, however,	
(slap)	(slaps hands)	
É!	Oh my!	170
Átx'! Tóot awsitáa, túx' daak awsitá	Gee! He put that dead duck inside, and then he brought it out.	
Tle du tláa xánt awustáayí áwé,	When he brought it to his mother,	

lx'éesh.	she skins it.	
Yá a díx' kaanáx áwé aawaḵ'ék'w.	She slit it open along the back.	
Du tláa.	His mother.	175
Du tláach tle yóo áwé daatx aawaḵ'ék'w tle	His mother, and then she cut off	
tóox' a kiji tin ldakát tle a x'oosí.	the wings and all of the feet.	
Tle yéi áwé.	That's how it was then.	
Tle ch'a aagáa áwé tsú áwé a téix'	Then the heart,	180
ch'a yéi yáteeeyi wé, yéi yawsikaa du tláa « K'é toox nagú, Atléi, k'é toox nagú. »	when it was just there, He said to his mother "Get inside it, Mom, get inside it."	
Tle tóode woogoot wé du tláa.	She got inside it, that mother of his.	185
Dé a yík nashix áwé tle daak jiw dihóo.	When she gets inside she swims out like a duck.	
Du kát áyú Tle de yoo uwanei tle daak at sawdixít.	It's on her, and when it happens, she shakes the water off herself.	
Du kaanáx kei .óox' du kináa áwéi-éi át wulitéet	The wind blows on her, and then she floats way up above him on the waves.	190
E-e-e ... wáa nanée sáwé de yan jiw dihóo.	My ... at some point then she swims ashore.	
Ax'eiwawóos' « Wáa sá sé iyatee? »	He asks, "how might you be doing?"	
« Tle at k'é háayu, tle ch'u shóogu yáax' xwaxáx tle yéi xaxá wootee.	"It's good here, it's the same here, I was eating, eating while here.	195

Yéi áwé daayahaak', du yéet.	That's the way it happened around him, her son.	
Ǫáawé du aayí sákw.	It would really become his.	
Aawat'úk	He shot it.	200
Á ku.aa	However,	
yá a lú	this, its beak,	
Gus'xlugook	Gus'xlugook (Nose Poking Through the Clouds)	
yóo áwé duwasáakw át áyú, yú lú koowáat'.	is what that's called, it has a long nose.	205
Áwé shanáa daak aawatée.	And then he brought it over her head.	
Tle tóox wugoot áwé, tle kindachóon kei wdiḱín.	She walked inside of it, and then flew straight up.	
Tle yú xáats'de áwé wudikín.	Then Raven flew to the sky.	
É!	Oh my!	
Tle yú du lúk'	And then his little nose	210
wáa sá koowáat' tle yáx a tóode wudigeech.	how long it is, it's like he stuck it into the sky then.	
Ch'a át áwé sh wuditool.	And then he spun himself around there.	
Tlel tsu ch'a gégaa yóo anasnee, tléik'.	He didn't just swing there, no.	
Wáa nanée sáwé, áa gunéi kawlitíx'.	At some point,	215
Tle daak shudaxích yinde.	he twisted into something different.	
Tle yá t'átgi káa áwé wudzigeet.	And then he dropped himself down. Then fell on the ground.	
Tle k'idéin awsinee, k'idéin atéen.	He did it carefully, then, he really saw it.	
Ldakát óosh géit awdlidaayí du káak ku.aa.	His uncle had pulled the tide over everything, though.	220
Wáa sáwé desgwáatch du l nḱaa gút de?	How is it he had already gone away from him?	

Guna aandé kgwakóox	He's going to go by boat to some other land.	
Guna aandé kúx awkshitán.	He was in the habit of going to different places.	
É!	Oh my!	225
Ch'u tle yaa nat'ík du yöode aan t'éide.	And then he paddles way over there behind the land.	
Tle yáax' áwé tle aadé woogoot.	When he gets here, he walks towards it.	
Tsu yei kawliyáat' áyáx áwé	Tsu yei kawliyáat' áyáx áwé	
Hé!	Oh!	
Yú goox',	Those slaves,	230
aax at wujixéini yáx áwé a tóo wé neil.	it's like they fell of of it and into that home.	
Aaa.	Yes.	
Tle yéi wsikaa, ax'eiwóos',	Then he says, he asks him,	
« Goosú yú shaawát?	"Where is that woman?	
Yú ax káak shát goosú hú?	That wife of my uncles, where is she?	235
Yóo seiýi tóot áwé aadé yöo nduwatsís.	She is bobbing around in the shelter.	
yóodu hú.	There she is.	
At awdlgéin át gíwé kawdliyaa kóok yík dís ...	He saw something, it maybe was lowered into a box, the moon ...	
kóok yíkt dís aan yú du shát.	his wife has the moon down in a box.	
Tle dzeit át has awsitán	Then they carried it on a dock.	240
Yú goox'.	Those slaves.	
Neil awsi.ín tlé.	It was brought into the house, then.	
Tle gánde	Then outside.	
Gáanx' áwé tsá anax awdlik'úts	Only outside they would be broken.	245
Daax awdlik'úts.	It was broken around it.	
Ách kawdudzixáat'.	It would was dragged by a rope.	
A yíknáx kei awaxút' we du káak shát.	His uncle's wife drags it up out of it.	

ch'a hú du kées' ajeewaná̄k.	it was just him that let go of the tide.	
Aaa.	Yes.	
Shaawát tle xáayá yá Lingít'aani.	The world, then, is a woman, you see.	
Kées' akawsidaa.	He causes the tide to flow.	280
Hóoch'.	That's all.	
Éh!	Hey!	
Tle xa át wudikín.	He flew around, see.	
Du tláa s ch'u hú áwé át jiwdihoo.	His mother, she just floated around.	285
Tóon át, tsú, tóon át wootee.	She was concerned about it, too.	
Has tsú ash wudlijá̄k yóo uwajee.	She thought he killed them, too.	

Notes

1. Lingítch: Because the word lingít can mean either 'people' generically or 'Tlingit people' particularly, this particular statement is ambiguous. We have translated the phrase as "Tlingit people call him Yookis'kookéik", but other equally valid translations are "Tlingits call him Yookis'kookéik" or just "people call him Yookis'kookéik".
2. Éi-ei áyá-a-a: This is chanted, with the first word at a lower pitch than the second word, and the second word rising on the second syllable. It seems to represent the crying of Yookis'kookéik's sister-wife.

GEESH DAA_X WOOGOODI YÉIL

Raven Went Down Along the Bull Kelp

RECORDED: August 29, 1952 in Yakutat by Kuṣaankutaan Fredrica de Laguna

TRANSLATION: X'unei Lance Twitchell

Shkalneek:

Éh!	Hey!	
Tle ṣa át wudiḱín.	He flew around, see.	
Du tláa s ch'u hú áwé át jiwdihoo.	His mother, she just floated around.	
Tóon át, tsú, tóon át wootee.	She was concerned about it, too.	
Has tsú ash wudlijáḱ yóo uwajee.	She thought he killed them, too.	5

Ei!	Oh!	
Aadáx áwé ...	After that ...	
desgwách áyá yei naléin.	the tide is already going out.	10
Ei-ei-ei-ei!	My-y-y-y!	
Ch'u shóogu at kaawadaayí yé.	It is flowing at the same place.	
Ch'u shóogu at kaawadaayí.	It is flowing the same.	
Wáa nanée sáwé,	At some point,	
áa yéi koowdlit' éx'	he twisted there,	15
de daaḱ sh wudaḱích yínde.	and then dropped himself downward.	

É'!	My!	
Kúnáx áyú	It really was	

dís áa yéi yatee yé.	the moon there at that place.	20
Gaaw áwé tle wudikín,	It was time to fly,	
a kínaa k̄wa k̄ukaawakín.	he flew upward.	
Geesh	Bull kelp.	
Héende daxwás'.	It was hanging down in the water.	
Geesh áyá.	It's bull kelp.	25
Yá a daat daxwás' áwé x̄oo yéi wootee wéit.	It is hanging there, and he was among it there.	
Wé nées'	Those sea urchins	
Ách áwé,	Because of that,	
geesh daax̣ áwé yei woogoot, ch'a aadé	he just went down among them, just so	
Du jeet agaxeexít.	he could get some.	30
Tle a kındaa x̄á kei wulxáas'ch.	Then he is scraping them up off the bottom.	
Dé! Wáa nanée sáwé ayaawadlaak	Now! At some point he obtains it,	
ch'a hooch kei aawakwách.	and it's him, he brings them up in his cupped hands.	
Aan kei wlihásh.	He floats up with them.	
Daak̄ áwé, daak̄ uwagút, ku.aa anées'.	Inland, he went up on the land.,	35
X̄! Analúkch.	and ate sea urchins.	
Ch'a yáat áwé s kei kandukwéich.	(Scrape!) He's swallowing them.	
(slurping sound) tle yéi.	Just here he is, spitting out the liquid.	
Tlél daat tooshtí; tle tsu kooná.	(slurping sound) then.	
Tsá sáwé, wáa nanée sáwe a daa tsu awdugút.	She didn't pay any attention to him; she's sitting there then.	40
Wé díx' át du káa hé.	Was it just then, that he came back around her?	
Áa sáyá ax̄ díx' x̄'atúx, ax̄ díx', áa sá?	The back, there, on her.	
Hmm?!	Who is it that spit on my back? On my back, who is it?	
	Huh?!	

Yaanáx aksagóo wé díx' yaanáx, wé nées' á	He is jabbing her along her back, with a sea urchin.	45
Kei akaawduwaneé yáx yatee	It's like something drastic was happening.	
L too át yaanáx áwu.	It was hollow inside.	
Áx' aawanís' áyá.	He had eaten the sea urchin out of the shell there.	
Tle hóoch'.	It's done.	50
Áa kaawahán wé gíl'	He is swaying on a cliff.	
Náalxx' yóo duwasáakw wé gíl'.	That cliff is called « Náalxx' »	
Áa kaawahán,	He is swaying there,	
Yéilch áa kaawahán wé gíl'.	Raven is swaying on the cliff.	
Tléel yéi dusáakw, « Yéil Yú », áwé,	He was not called « Yéil Yú » that, that is,	55
Yax Kées' Áa Kudzinóogu Shaanák'w	The Little Old Woman Who Sits on the Tide	
aagáa áwé tsá yéi uwasáa.	and then it was only after she named him that.	
Ásh yáa aawasáa « Yéil Yú ».	She is the one who named him « Yéil Yú ».	60
Á áwé woogoot.	And then he was walking.	
Yéi xáawé a lít koowdzigit shaanák'w haat uwagút.	And when he fell from the back of it, that little old woman came over.	
« Daa sákshí yáa gé?	“What ever is this?	
Ash tlél ...	Didn't he ...	
tlél k'idéin yéi ul'eich gé yáax' hú sáyá?	had he not heated it up yet, here?	65
Daa sákshí yáa gé yisitee? »	What ever did you become?”	
Hé!	My!	
Ax xánx' xá aldél tsú.	He came by, you see, watching over it, too.	
Káa shaanák'w xánt aldél yóot aawa.oo.	This old man came to look after it, using that over there.	
Tléel aadé ngxlikooxu yé.	There is no way the tide can go down.	70

Ch'a hú du jeenáx áwé tsu
haandé guxlakóox.

Just through her grip, again the tide
starts going out towards here.

Yóo áwé s

That is, they

kei l kunaléiyix awiliyéx.

he did not use it to get very far.

Tle aadé woogoot du xánde.

Then went to her.

Awsitín.

He saw her.

75

Ée! Áwé hú gánt uwataa.

My! There she was, sleeping outside.

Du díx'.

Her back.

Tsu yóo yaawaakaa:

She again said:

« Daa sá keináx ayaawataa?

“What am I rolling up against?”

80

Nées' gei yan xát seiwla.át' »

The water in the sea urchin chilled me.”

Yéi á.

That's it.

Yéi áwé. Wáa nanée sáwé,

That's it. At some point,

Dei s x'akaadáx á, yéi nasgeet

Then, only as this is happening,

85

áwé tsá yéi ash yawsikaa:

does she say to him:

« Ch'a goot áyá goosá woolaa
wé lein a kát iyanís'? »

“Was it some other place where the tide
went out and you were eating sea
urchins?”

Ch'a « Yéil Tl'éetli' »

Just “Shitty Raven,”

tle Yéil ash yaawasaa.

then she named him.

Hóoch'.

That's all.

90

Ch'as « guneit » áyá
gaḡdusáakw tsú.

He would just be called “alien” too.

Aaa, tle jiwdigút.

Yes, then he attacked her.

Kindaatóogin aawaíxich.

He threw her upside down.

Wé nées' daaklak'áts' sákshéwé
dateech.

He has those spines of the sea urchin.

Tuḡdaanáx áwé akwsigóo.

He is poking it all around her butt.

95

Tóonu.

Inside it.

Nées' nóox'u tóonu.

Inside the sea urchin shell.

« Déi Yéil! » tle kei awdigáx.

“Quit, Raven!” she cries out.

Kuchéin Frank Italo

« Déi Yéil!	“Quit, Raven!	
Déi Yéil!	Quit, Raven!	100
Gagalaa dé Yéil. Aaa.	Let the tide go out now, Raven. Yes.	
Tsa tsú a tóot awsinee wé	Just when he put his hand in that shell,	
gagalaa Yéil yoo kuwaka.	Raven, she commanded the tide to go out.	
Yá naaliyéide yan kalakóox áwé	The tide drained way out once she let	
tsá ajeewanak.	go of it.	
Daawaxích tle.	Then he tossed her.	105
Hóoch’.	That’s it.	
Aagáa áwé woogoot.	Then he went walking.	
Sháx’ ash yisiníkw.	He feels it on his head.	
« Sh eenú!	“Get up!	110
Ax kék’ sák w! Sh eenú! »	My brother-to-be! Get up!”	
X’asheegákwgu sák w,	The one that will be X’asheegákwgu,	
yu.á.	they say.	
Yéil.	Raven.	
(at shook)	(laughter)	115

YÉIL LÁKT TÓOX' YÉI YATEE

Raven in the Box

RECORDED: September 13, 1952 in Yakutat by Kuḡaankutaan
Fredrica de Laguna

TRANSLATION: Keixwnéi Nora Marks Dauenhauer, Kaxwaan Éesh
George Davis, Shaksháani Marge Dutson, and X'unei
Lance Twitchell

Introduction:

This recording session is a continuation of Kuchéin Frank Italo's telling the Raven cycle to Frederica de Laguna which he began on 29 August 1952. The tape ran out during that recording session and so Frank Italo returned two weeks later on 13 September to record the rest of the cycle. The original audio tape was de Laguna's reel 7 side 2 (De Laguna 1972: 848) which is identified today as APSdigrec_0627 (audio:6874) in her records deposited at the American Philosophical Society. This version is very laconic and it is hard to get the point of the story from this fragment alone. See the version of this story told by Emma Marks for more detail (THIS VOLUME).

Shkalneek

Ash woöyáa du kéilk'. ³	His nephew packed him on his back.	
Du – du kéek'	His – his younger brother	
ash woöyáa yú shaaḡaadé.	packed him on his back to the face of a mountain.	
Yéi duwasáakw Ts'eeek'áa. ⁴	It is called Ts'eeek'áa.	
Áwé a ḡaax daak wududzigíx',	He was thrown from the face,	5
Yéil a yaax daak wududzigéex'i yé,	the place where Raven was thrown from the face of it,	

wé lákt du een.	that bentwood box with him in it.	
Ch'a yeisú tléix' ÿan wusxeexí áwé, ÿanáat' yóot wujixín, a daax̄ ÿawlik'úts.	As soon as it bounced once the top fell off and the strings around it broke.	
Tle a yíknáx̄ yóot wudikín.	Then he flew out.	
Ách áwé tlél du tóogaa usteex̄ ách kadus.aax̄w át.	This is why he wasn't satisfied with the strings.	10
« Daa sá ách x̄at kees.aax̄w, kík'? »	"What are you tying me with, brother?"	
tle yóo áwé ÿanakeich.	he kept saying.	
« Haa, tíx' x̄áayá! »	"Well, these strings here!"	
« He-e-e.	"My-y-y.	
Á áwu, kát ách wooch katoos. aax̄u át, ch'u tlaagúdax̄, hó hó. ⁵	"Let me see, these are what we tied each other with from long ago.	15
Yéisx' taashukáx̄ kalxwás'ch kwshé.	In the fall they put out runners on the beach.	
Lax̄'ées'i ⁶ akax̄aadi kwshé á áwé »	Beach rye roots, that's it. »	
Áwé oosgáax̄. Ch'a aadé kdus. aax̄w áwé tsá du tóogaa wootee.	That's what he asked for. When he tied him with that he was finally satisfied.	
« Taashukáx̄ kalxwás' x̄áayá. Á áwé.	"They really put out runners on the beach. That's it.	
Haa tláa káak hás ách woosh kas.aax̄w át. »	What our mother's maternal uncles tied each other with."	20
(at wushook)	(laughter)	
« Ho ho! »	"Okay!"	
Aadé at kuwanugu yé áyá. Ch'u tle súgaa aawatee.	This was what the people would do. He figured it out.	
Haa, aadáx̄ áyá, daak ash sagéex'.	Well, they threw him over from there.	25

Tléix' ýan wusxeexí áwé a yíknáx yóot wudikín.	As it bounced once he flew out of it.
Tle wudikeen tle.	Then he flew away.

Notes

3. kéek': Kuchéin Frank Italo actually says kéilk' 'maternal nephew' but then corrects himself to kéek' 'younger brother' in the next line.
4. Ts'eeek'áa: This is pronounced more like Ch'eeek'áa but we have kept Keixwnéi Nora Dauenhauer's initial transcription. The name presumably refers to a particular mountain in the Yakutat area but the specific mountain is still unidentified, not appearing in either of Thornton's (2012) lists of names in the Yakutat (pp. 16–26) and Hoonah (pp. 39–46) areas.
5. Kuchéin Frank Italo is chuckling through the last half of this sentence and Ts'ooowdalé Minnie Johnson can be heard laughing in the background.
6. Lax'ées'i: This is a genus of grasses (Leymus (L.) Hochst. 1848 or Elymus L.) used for basketry in most of coastal Alaska. Specific examples are Leymus mollis ((Trin.) Pilg. 1947) and Leymus arenarius (Hochst. 1848).

YÉIL KA YÁAY

Raven and the Whale

RECORDED: September 13, 1952 in Yakutat by Kuḡaankutaan
Fredrica de Laguna

TRANSLATION: Keixwnéi Nora Marks Dauenhauer, Kaxwaan Éesh
George Davis, Shaksháani Marge Dutson, and X'unei
Lance Twitchell

Shkalneek

Tle yéi wé x'aak'w jatéix' áwé sh daawdligoo, wé eex, eex xoot aayí yéeyich.	He wiped his body off behind a point of land, that oil, because he had sat in oil.	
Aadáx áwé-e-e du kék' kwa tle kut aawaxeech. Tle tléil awuskú.	From that time he lost his younger brother. He just didn't know.	
Teet, teet x'atóode woogoot.	Waves, he went out into the mouth of the waves.	5
Awsiteen wé yáay; du t'ikát woox'aak.	He saw the whale; It swam out away from him.	
Tle tsu héináx aadé.	It would turn around again.	
Wáa nanéi sáwé a kináa wdiḡín. Hée'!	At some point, Raven flew over it. Oh boy!	
Tle aax yaa kunalgeich anax daséigu yé.	The spray is getting really big from where he's breathing.	10
Du tooch lichéesh a yíkde wdaḡeení.	He thinks it's possible to fly in it.	
Wáa nanéi sáwé a yíkde wdiḡeen.	At some point, he flew in it.	
Hóoch'.	That's all.	

Yáax' áwé wjikaak.	He landed here.	
« É! Neil gwáa yá. »	"Oh my! Maybe this is a home"	15
Tle neil áwé du waakx wusitee wé yáay yík.	At that time it looked like a home, inside that whale.	
Hé!	Oh my!	
Taaÿ kwa ch'a yéi du yáadax dixwás'.	There's fat hanging of his insides.	
A yík taaÿí.	The inner fat of it.	
Áwe ch'u tle	And just then	20
a yix' shoot awdi.ák. ⁷	he built a fire inside it.	
Áx'w!	There!	
Neil gwáa wégé?	Is that a home?	
A yix' shoot awda.aagí áwé aawaják.	Building this fire inside killed it.	
Wé-e-e desgwách	There he was already	25
du een át wootaan.	jumping around with it.	
Tle ldakát héeni kaheix du daa.	Then melted fat, is all over his body,	
Tsu du shakéex ka, goot'á sá	and over his head, everywhere,	
a yeet wusgeedí.	it fell from inside the whale.	
Yéi áwé	That's how it is.	30
Aawaják.	He killed it.	
Ajáak.	He's killing it.	
Du toowúch ku.aa anax kei kgwagóot tsu yú anax neil wudakeení yé.	He thinks he can walk up out of that place he flew into like home.	
Ajáak áwé át uwagút.	He's killing it, and walks up to it.	
Tle yéide tle kawdidóok.	When he gets there it's plugged up.	35
Tle hóoch'.	It's over.	
Yóo wunaawúch áwé yéi wsnéi.	That whale's dying did this.	
Hóoch' áwé.	It's over.	
Tle áwé desgwách oolxéis'.	He is already deeply wishing for it then.	
« Yak'éiyi l'éiw dé-é-é-é! » ⁸	"Towards a fine sand!"	40

Yóo áwé oolxéis'.	That is how is he wishing.	
« Yak'eyi l'éiw dé-é-é-é! »	"Towards a fine sand!"	
Wáa nanéi sáwé	At some point	
wé l'éiw kaléit wulihásh.	he drifts up to a beautiful sand.	
Át laháash áwé,	When it drifts there,	45
hóoch'.	it's done.	
Kul.áxs'	People keep hearing him	
du daadé.	around the whale.	
Lingít	People	
du daadé kgwagóot.	gather around him.	50
Wáa nanéi sáwé, aawa.áx yoo	At some point, he hears them talking	
x'ala.át		
du daadé.	about him.	
Haahá!	Uh-huh!	
Wuduwat'ei	It was found,	
wé yáay.	that whale.	55
Áyú Alséix wat Gasgéex' Altín	That mouth of the Alsek River is called	
áwé yóo duwasáakw.	Gasgéex' Altín.	
Yéil a yíkde wdiḱeeni yáay áwé.	Raven flew into that whale.	
Dul'éiw wé l'éiw.	It's a fine sand.	
L'éiwx siteeyi,	When it became sandy,	
tléil té á.	there were no rocks there.	60
Aadé oolxéis'i yé.	That is how he wished it.	
Tle ch'a wáa nanée sáwé	At some point then, too,	
desgwách	they already	65
yoo x'ala.átk woochx yaa nas.	could hear each other talking.	
áx.		
Wáa nanéi sáwé	At some point, inside of it,	
duwa.áx.	it was heard.	

« Aadóo sá ƙaa kaanáƙ angaxaashí-í-í-í-í. ⁹	"Who could let someone cut above a person?"	
Yaaÿ yíkdáƙ kei ƙduƙeen. »	Let someone fly out of this whale."	70
Tl'é!	Oh my!	
« Daa sá wtu.áƙ? »	"What did we hear?"	
Tle yóo ƙooÿawaƙaa.	It was said to the people then.	
Yoo ƙ'atánk ƙáawé wduwa.áƙ	It was speaking, actually, that was heard.	
Yoo ƙ'atánk áwé.	It was speaking.	75
Tle yéi kawliyát' a yáƙ áwé tle tsú.	It's like it got really long then, too.	
« Aadóo sá ƙaa kaanáƙ angaxaashí-í-í-í-í? »	"Who could let someone cut above a person?"	
MJ: Ƙaa yík aan yátx'í tsú —	Inside people, the noble children —	
No. « A yíkdáƙ kei ƙduƙeen. »	No. "Let someone fly out of it. »	
wáa sá.	that's the way it goes.	80
MJ: « Aadóo sgé ƙaa yáƙ aanyádi tsú [??] ƙaa kaanáƙ angax— »	« What noble person could let a person cut above a person—	
« Aan yátx'i » tlél ƙáawé yéi ƙwa.aax.	I really never heard « aan yátx'i » before.	
Áÿá dé!	This is the way it is!	
Aagáa ƙaa náƙ ÿaa ƙudzitee yéi tuwajée.	And then we think it left people.	
Aaa. Ch'a yéi áwé ƙwaa.áƙi. Yéi áwé.	Yes. That is just the way I heard it. That's how it is.	85
Tsú tsá áyá ƙáawé ƙá tsú yéi agaklaníkch.	And this is just the only way, you see, that it is told.	
Haaw.	Well.	
Yéi áwé	That's how it is.	
Wáa nanéi sáwé wduwaxaash, wé a yíkde áyú, kakawdudlixásh.	At some point, somebody cut it in that whale, it was cut open.	90

Tle yaa kakandulxáshi yoo woosh dakán yoo ndusnéi áwé, hí',	When they cut it open and pulled it apart, oh my,	
tsu kunask'éitch a yík áyú a taayí yát yax kunaskákch yú	they're moving it around to look inside, and the fat was really thick in there.	
Aaá.	Yes.	
Aa tléinx'.	Big things.	95
Tle yéi kaa yá xoot áwé wdi _k ín.	Then he flies out among their faces.	
Gáa! Gáa! Gáa!	Gáa! Gáa! Gáa!	
Haahá!	Uh-huh!	
Du.áx.	He makes that sound.	
Tle kindachóon áwé kei nda _k ín.	Then he's he's flying upward.	100
Gáa! X'u! X'u! X'u! X'u! X'u!	Gáa! X'u! X'u! X'u! X'u! X'u!	
yóo duwa.áxch.	that's how it sounded.	
Ch'as yóodáx tsú tle yú kinde kuseiwa.áx.	Just from over there they heard this voice going up.	
Tle yú xáats' tóode áwé tle kut wooxeex	It got lost in the sky,	
tlé hóoch'.	and it was gone.	105
Áx' áwé yadagút yú lingít.	The people turned away from it there.	
Kut akaxsayáa áwé tsá yóo wdi _k een.	Only when the people wandered off, he flew.	
	Oh my!	
Aan yax kwagóot dé.	He's going to go walk on the land.	
Yú tliyaax' áwé	Way over there,	110
tl'átgi káa yéi wootee.	he was on the land.	
Daak kandujél.	People are carrying things away from the beach.	
De aa dus.ée	People are cooking there now.	
Aa dus.ée la _k díx' xoodé	People are cooking there in bentwood boxes full	
táay.	of fat	115
Wáa nanéi sáwé	At some point	

aan yáa uwagút	Raven comes to town.	
Tle a shóonáƙ áwé át uwagút.	Then he went to that starting point.	
Wé aan.	That town.	
« Tleil shéi kwshé a yíkde ƙukawduwa.aax ákwé wé yáay? »	"Maybe, perhaps, then, did somebody not hear someone in that whale?"	120
« Tléik! Tléik! Tléik! »	"No! No! No!"	
« Tle tsu tliyaa áwé?	"Maybe way over there?"	
Tléil shé kwshé dé a yíkde ƙukawdu.aax ákwé?	Maybe, perhaps, then, didn't somebody hear someone in that whale?	
Yá wáa nanées sáwé wé ƙúnáƙ áwé du kaanáƙ aawaxaashi áx'? »	At some point, someone actually cut him out there."	
Áa neil uwagút.	He walked in there.	125
« É!	"Oh my!	
Tléil shé kwshé a yíkde ƙukawduwa.aax ákwé yáay yóo?»	Maybe, perhaps, then, didn't somebody hear someone in	
wé yáay?» yóo	that whale?"	
« Aaá!	"Yes!	
A yíkde ƙuduwa.áx.	Somebody heard someone in there.	130
A yíkde.	In there.	
a yíkdé ƙuwduwa.áx. »	Somebody heard someone in there."	
« Wáa sákwshíwégé? »	"How was it over there?"	
« Aadóo sgé ƙaa kaanáƙ angaxaashí-i-i?	"Who could let someone cut above a person?"	
Yáay yíkdáƙ kei xduƙéen?	He flew out of the whale.	135
Yóo xáawé!	That's the way it was.	
Gwáa, gwáa. »	Maybe, maybe."	
Du x'éit uwashée.	He touched his mouth.	
« Haaw.	"Well.	
Tléil yáay ásgíwé.	Maybe it's not a whale.	140
Tléil yáay áwé. »	That's not a whale."	

Kuchéin Frank Italo

Ch'a aan áwé.	Even then.	
Ch'a aan.	Even then.	
Ch'a aan	Even then,	
yóo áyú aawasáa	that's how he named them,	145
hóoch k̲u.aa	it was him,	
tle « taax̲ kei naa lagás'ch. »	then 'the clan that migrated from the bottom of the water.'	
Taax̲ kei naa lagás'ch.	The clan that migrated from the bottom of the water.	
K̲ux̲ nax'ák̲wx̲ sitee altín	It swims too much, he sees it	
a taak du.oowú » yóo.á.	living in the water, they say.	150
K̲aa dachx̲ánk' át x̲áawé.	It's really like a little grandchild.	
(at wushook̲)	(laughter)	
K̲út̲x̲ nax'ák̲wx̲ sitee	It swims too much.	
tléil a taak du.úxx'.	they don't live in the bottom of water.	
Haaw, yéi áwé.	Well, that's how it is.	155
Du x̲'ayáx̲ áwé,	Because he said it,	
tle a taax̲ naa wligáas'.	they migrated up from the bottom.	
Tléix' aan wudiláx̲.	It's one land they never come back to.	
Áwé yéi át a t'áak wudiwú̲k̲.	Yes, it is something that fell behind it.	
Ayáx̲ áwé tle naa wligáas'.	This is how the clan migrated then.	160
(at wushook̲)	(laughter)	
Hóoch'!	That's all!	
De yóodáx̲ áwé k̲ux̲ wudik̲ín.	He flew back from way over there.	
Ch'as guneit x̲'é has a shóot ax̲'eiwatée.	He just imitated this monster's mouth to them.	
Aadáx̲ áwé	From that,	165
agsidóok̲ awsik'ít'.	he ate up the whole thing.	
Aadáx̲ áwé a doogú tle tsú.	From that he ate the skin too.	
Hóoch'.	That's all.	

Notes

7. Kuchéin Frank Italo chortles here.

8. Yak'éiyi l'éiw dé-é-é-é!: This and the following identical line are chanted.
9. Aadóo sá ... kei xduǰeen: These two lines are chanted.

YÉIL KA KEI.Á

Raven and Daylight (version 1)

RECORDED: September 13, 1952 in Yakutat by Kuᵗaankutaan
Fredrica de Laguna

TRANSLATION: Keixwnéi Nora Marks Dauenhauer

Shkalneek

Aaa	Yes,	
Ha yaa	Then this	
yax taat kuhaani,	people of the night,	
keekaa daak uwagút,	when he came out across (the river) from them,	
adusdeek,	people fished,	5
shaak yatx'i yú dusdéek.	they fished tiny driftwood.	
"Ax shoodéi!"	"Come get me!"	
hei eix'ch diyaanax aadéi	he hollered across (the river).	
"Ax shoodéi!"	"Come get me!"	
L k'adaat kaa toosh tí,	They didn't pay attention to him,	10
déi gwa heidei áwé eex' duwa.	even when he hollered they didn't hear.	
áxch		
waananéi sawei	When was it	
yéi yaa wakaa,	he said,	
"Ax shoodéi!"	"Come get me!"	
yee kaa kee á nkwaak'óots."	"Before I break daylight over you!"	15
Haahá yan kawdudli.áx.	Then those who were there	
Áwé yá yan wudagaa wadi aach		
áwé		
du x'éix akawliyaakw.	didn't believe him.	

"hadóo!	"Oh you!	
Goodax naas shagí yát sayu	Where is the noble child head waters of Nass coming from.	20
kee.á du jee yei ngatee?"	He should have daylight in his hands."	
Tléi, ch'u tlei áa shukawdujaayi yax	He was as if he was instructing him	
áwé woonéi.	is what happened.	
Kee.á aa yéi yatee,	Daylight was there,	
ách áwé tle woogoot	so he went	25
Naas shaak déi.	to the head water of Nass.	
Yéil á	This was Raven,	
aaa, Naas shagi Yéil	yes, Raven at the head of Nass	
yoo duwasáakw wé axandéi yaa nagút áa,	is what his name was, the one he was going to visit,	
wé kee.á daakéit du jee yei yateeyi áa.	the man who had daylight.	30
Ldakát át	Everything,	
kutx.ayanahá daakeit.	box of stars,	
Yú díis kwa ch'a tlákw kudzitee.	moon was already around from always.	
Haaw,	Now,	
tle át wugoodí áwé	when he came there	35
wé du sée.	for the daughter	
X'wáal toox s'é shkuwdlioo,	he made himself into a down (feather).	
lákdi x'eesháa,	(When) bentwood box	
daak nadus.ín dux'éis.	was being brought for her to drink,	
Tle yá x'awooldáx áwé a kaadéi shwudlxéech	from this door way he threw himself into it,	40
x'waal toox sh kuwdli.óo.	into the down.	
Tle neil déi yaa ndusinee xaanaa	As they were bringing the drink inside that evening,	
yáat yáx kuteeyí,	The weather was dark	
tle teilt akawligán	then he lighted a sap wood	
a kaa kéi yawdudzitée.	he lifted it to give light	45

X'wáal' gwayaagé a kát wuliháash,	hey there is a down floating on it.	
a kaax yóot wuduwaǵix'. [laughing]	He threw it off from the top. [laughing]	
Haa hooch áwé, atx áwé tsú keena.áa tsu xáanaa	Well it was gone and the next day the evening,	50
eeti aa xáanaa áwé, ǵítgaa toox shkuwdli.óo yéeysikóo.	the following morning he made himself get into a pine needle you all know.	
A x'a x'aas'iyinax adaná, yí aan yádi.	Right at the corner is where she drinks, this noble child.	55
Anax áwé oodanáaych, anax adana yé kudzitée.	This where she drank, this was the place she could drink.	
Ya a x'u x'aas'i yeex aya kei sh wuditsák	He placed himself in the corner	
ǵítgaa tóox sh kuwdli.oo tle koodlidéin yaa ananút'i áwé tsá a yikdéi wé a yikdéi woox'aak.	in the pine needle he made himself. When she took a big swallow is when he headed inside, he swam inside of her.	60
Gíggaa áwé alkáxt tleik',	She tried to cough it up no,	
waananeí sáwé desgwach ilkú wé aan yadi ilku	when was it she was throwing up. The noble child was throwing up.	65
kei kgeel koo ltín. Tle yan wulkoowú du yikdax kei kawdak'eet'ee áwé	I can't see you throwing it up. As she stopped throwing up when everything she had was out	70
át akandulganch, Daa sá awunoot'i tleil wuduskú.	they would light a torch for what she swallowed. No one knew	

Waananei sáwé akát sei wax'akw	at a point she forgot	
wé	this	75
Tléil du yikdei too.awunookw tlax niyís.	She didn't even feel it inside of her.	
Tle atk'atsk'oox áwé du jee wsitee,	Then it became a baby inside her,	
deisgách du dísi kudzitee, dis,	already she had past months months	80
yaa anatúw, yaa anatúw yaa anatúw.	she counted them, she counted them she counted them,	
Aadéi yanastéen du jee	toward it she carried in her hand	
waananeí sáwé yan yakaawgéi.	when was it she was at the expect time	85
Gándeí kát kuwsiháa, ei! ei! ei! ei! ei! ei!	she was at a point where she needed to go ei! ei! ei! ei! ei! ei!	
gandéi. Tlék',	outside. No!	90
áwé wdudliyéx du daa kahídi, Cháash hít.	Then a shelter was made for her, branch hut	
ayee kéi kawduwaháa kook,	a hole was dug out a pit,	
ataa yéi kulg wastée. Yoot'át áwé,	where the infant would be born marten skins	95
koox doogú áwé ataadéi kduyáa,	were what the pit was lined like the girl's father said	
du eesh x'ayáx e',	fine.	
ataadéi kduyaa tle. Kei shadulhéek áwé tsá,	It was being lined when it was filled	100
tláakw kaaxát wé shaawát.	the woman was in labor	

A kaa daak unookch,	she sat on the pit.	
a káa daak wunoogú áwé	When she sat on the pit	
tle du eetx kunashéich.	the pain would leave her.	105
Tlél tsu waasá uteenooch,	She would be alright.	
atx áwé tsú akax woonukch,	Then she sat on the pit again	
tle akax yawunoogu áwé	as she sat on it	
du eet toodataanch.	the pain would leave her.	
Tléik' waa nanéi sawéi déi,	No! When was it	110
yei yaa wakaa	he said	
we du eesh ku.aa	her father of (the girl)	
"K'ei Lyóo at koowajeegi	"Let me see, lets send for the old	
shaanákw	who is always curious.	
gaa angagoodí."		
Ách áwé tle du eegáa aa	This is why someone went for her	115
wagoot.		
Haat uwagóot,	when she came,	
wé l yóo at koowajeegi	the elder who is always curious,	
shaanákw.		
Tle xaawé yéi yaa waka	she then said	
wé shaawat shaanákw.	this little elder	
"Ax dachxank!	"My poor Grandchild!	120
k'éi s'ix'gáa,	Let try get moss,	
k'éi s'ix'gáa,	let try get moss,	
wéitátch shákdei wé	perhaps the lining is	
yéi sitee.	causing this.	
Tle wé k'oox' doogú	It's the	125
á áwé	marten skins	
tlel yéi koostéech.	that is why she doesn't give birth.	
Aadei ooshgé naguteeyí yé,	How would he have been	
koox' doogú kaa kuwusteeyí.	had he been born on marten skins.	
Yéi áwé tle,	Then they removed them from the pit.	130
atáatx kéi kawduwajél l,	This is how	

s'ix'gaa haat wududzitee,	they brought moss	
kéi shawdudlihík.	and filled it	
É! K'idéin	my niece.	
t'aají	-----	135
waananeí sáwé	When was it,	
haháa	Oh dear!	
tuwditáan.	She was in pain	
A kaa daak uwanúk	she moved out to the pit	
wé shaawát.	this girl.	140
Chúl wuxiji awe kuwdzitée.	Without much pain he was born	
Kei kawdigáx ataadei	he cried out in the pit	
wé kóok taadéi.	in the pit	
Haahá,	oh dear	
daatx awanúk,	he was there	145
a taatx kei wdudzinúk.	he was brought out of the pit	
E! tlé wé loon	my the on the bark	
yéi xa kunaageich	they could be this size	
loon.	bark	
A kát áwé kdus.áaxwch	he was tied onto it	150
atk'atsk'oo	an infant	
s'ix'gaach saadulhíkch	it is filled with moss	
yéi áwé	this is	
wdudzinei	what they did	
a kát kawdudzi.áxw	he was tied on	155
yéi jidu.aaxw.	they tied his arms	
Kaa jixóox yaanasgít.	each member of the family embraced him	
Waananei sáwé,	when was it	
Lyo.at koowajeegi shaanákw,	he was handed	
jeet wududzinúkw,	to the elder who is always curious,	160
yát awsinuk,	she held him	

Kuchéin Frank Itelio

"e'! ax dachxánk' deich'a Yéil waak	"Oh dear my Grandchild just like Raven's eyes	
Xaashéi, [laughter] dei ch'a Yéil waak xaashéi."	isn't it. [laughing] Just like Raven's eyes."	
Wakdaana kalit'ich'i yax awe kuwanook	Silver eyes were like shining the way they looked	165
wé at k'aksk'oo.	that new born	
Aa!	my!	
we shaanak'w	that old woman	
E'	fine	
hóoch'	was no more	170
dla!	too much!	
Yéi áwé tle tleix' yan uwatee we kookwxt daak yawduskaayí, daa kwéit yaa nawádi yáx sáwé yatee.	This is how he became a reality how can we compare him how he grew	175
Tléix' dís áwé ch'u tle át wudigwaat' we atk'ats'k'ú.	In one month he crawled that infant	
Yoohh! yaa nawáta	weee! When he grew	180
desgwách yú neil yeet wudigwaat' wáa yóo tuk dashaat sáwé kanaxdagaaxéet toowatee, aaa,	he was soon crawling around the floor how did he think of this, he wanted to cry yes,	
dei kshé kei kgeegaaxá. Kaa jéet wudusnoogú, tle kaa jee shakdax'wáx' nuch yóo.	you will cry already when they handed him over to another he was like an eel the way	185
Waananéi sáwé, hahá "yootát áwé"	when was it oh yes, it is this	

du léelk'wch yei wsiteen	his grandfather saw it.	190
"a ts'éixt xá yóot yoox yá kawsidux'u át áwé,	"This that was hanging tied in a bundle he cried so hard for,	
du jéet kaylakél' ax duch xánk	untie it for my grandchild,	
du jeet kaylakél'."	untie it."	
Kutx.ayanahá daakéit	It's a box of stars	
áwé du jéet kawdudlikél'	they untied it to his hand.	195
wé kaa	that man	
éi'i i i i i	my	
a daadéi shawditee.	He rubbed his head against it	
Heix'	here	
goosú kdagaaxí.	where was he crying?	200
Waananéi sáwé,	when was it	
heidei,	to the side	
hé néil yéet akawuljooxu	this thing he rolled around in the house	
akwé,	was it the one	
héi dei shoowjixéen	when the door opened	205
tle gáant akawlijijúx	he rolled it out	
"Ax adí"	"My precious"	
yóo áwé	he said	
altin	he watched	
tléik'	no	210
A daadei áwé	for this he cried.	
ch'u tle déi du yoowú	His stomach was almost was almost	
du x'ei	in his mouth	
yan uwatée Yéil.	this Raven.	
Wé gáant akawlijuxu	The container he rolled out	215
he' tu yalix'aani yáx kuwatee,	my they looked like they were burning.	
kutxayanahá,	The stars,	
a daakeidí gaant akawlijóox.	the container he rolled out,	
Deisgách,	already,	
deisgách,	already,	220

a kayaax yaa wakáa	he was hinting	
yú kee.á	for the box of daylight	
kee.á ayú awdzigáax	he cried to have the box of daylight	
kee.á ayú oosgáax dei.	he was already crying to have the box of daylight.	
Waananéi sáwé déi	When was it	225
du jeet kawdudlikél'	they already untied it to him	
a yanaax axlas'uxúu	when he opened it a crack	
ch'u tle déi ash oojáakch	he just about dies	
wé shiltí	from happiness	
E'!	my!	230
Goodéi sahé duwajée	Where did they think he was	
[Laughing]	[laughing]	

waananéi sáwé,	When was it	235
ch'ás gaan kaadéi duwaak,	only his eye kept going to the smoke hole	
ch'ás gaan kaadéi	only to the smoke hole	
wé atk'átsk'ú	that child	
ch'ás gaan kaadéi	only to the smoke hole.	
ch'al du éex kaa jiyawuxaashí	When no one was watching	240
áwé		
gáant wudikín	he flew out	
gaaaa!!!! hóoch'a	cawww!!!! no more	
Yéil á	it was Raven	
Yéil aan gaant wudikín	Raven flew out with it	
wé kee.á daa kéit.	with the box of daylight	245
Hooch'!	no more!	
Ch'u tle wé yax taat tukwaani,	He went across the river from	
kee kaa déi áwé,	people of the night.	
tle aan woogoot.	He carried the box.	
Aadéi aan nagóot áwé,	When he went there	250

keekáa daak uwagút.

he came out across from them.

Tle ax' áwé kái shi kaawashée.

Right there he started singing

laughing, now,

when he first started singing

he already came down from headwater 255
of Nass

he became an infant

among Nass head water people

he was born

he came to a noble child.

YÉIL KA KEI.Á

Raven and the Daylight (version 2)

RECORDED: May 7, 1954 in Yakutat by Kuḡaankutaan Fredrica de Laguna

TRANSLATION: Keixwnéi Nora Marks Dauenhauer & X'unei Lance Twitchell

Shkalneek

Yú Yéil	That Raven	
has awsikóo ágé	do they know	
yá t'l'átgi káx' kuwusteeyí?	he was born on the land?	
HB: Aaá.	Yes	
A káx has x'anawóos'!	Ask them	5
Yéil xá!	about Raven!	
HB: Dei xáa s awsikóo.	They already know, you see.	
Yá t'l'átgi káa kuwusteeyí	He was born on the land.	
HB: Aaá.	Yes.	
Ka yú	And that	10
du éesh ák tsú has awsikóo?	father of his, do they know him?	
HB: Há.a.	Oh my.	
	FdL: Is he going to tell another Raven story?	
Kéet Kwáani áwé	The Killer Whale People,	
kéet áwé du eeshx sitee, Yéil. ¹⁰	his father is a killer whale, Raven.	15
A góosh tónáx kuwawóol.	There is a hole in its fin.	
Á áwé	And	
yéi duwasáakw	it is called	
Gooshtuwool.	Gooshtuwool.	

Ch'a yéi sh wudisáakw.	This is just what he named himself.	20
Á áwé	And	
yá t'l'átgi káx'	on this land	
kuwdzitee,	he was born,	
tle Yéil.	then Raven.	
Shanyaateiyí áwé Yéilx sitee.	A completely round stone, that is Raven.	25
Yáadáx yú ikde áa yan uwalayi	From here, towards the beach, the place	
yé	where the tide goes out,	
aadáx	from that place,	
yú shaawátch kei uwatee du	that woman picked it up, just like he	
x'ayáx,	said,	
yú Gooshtuwool x'áxyáx.	like that Gooshtuwool said.	
Du éek' ji.eetéex' tlél yát	It was the handiwork of her brother,	40
ooshwátx du jeex',	in his hands children would not be	
	raised,	
yú dís áwé du eek'x sitee	that moon that is her brother.	
Wé shaawát	That woman	
áwé tlél yat awuswaat,	children were not raised,	
du shát x'eitaangaa.	according to what his wife said.	
K̄aa kuwusteeyí tle a jakx	When boys were born they were killed,	45
a x'ayáx	like it was said,	
Du éek' x'ayáx,	like her brother said.	
Yú k̄ees' du jeenáx	He commanded the tide, and because of	
kawuhaayich ku.aa áwé áa	that she was afraid.	
akdlíxéitl'.		
Yéi áwé	that's how it was.	
Tle shaawátx siteeyi aa tsú tle	Then the girl ones, too, he would kill	50
ajákx.	them.	
Du shát dei oondusk̄aak á.	His wife has already been told.	
Ash x'ayáx ajákx.	Like he said, she killed them.	
Áwé wé shanyaateiyí áwé tsa,	That low tide stone, she would only r	
yant'ei awsiwát, ch'a yú Kéet	aise it in hiding, like the Killer Whale	
K̄wáani x'ayáx.	People said.	

Áwé uwawát.	It grew up.	
Áwé ch'ú yeedát kudzitee,	It was born right away,	
héináx aadé kduneeek.	right here, it is said.	55
Héináx áwu, hú,	He was right here,	
Yéil.	Raven.	
Yú shanyaateiyix sateeyích	Because he is a low tide stone	
tlél aadé uxdishani yé.	he cannot become old.	
Tlél tsú aadé	There is no way, too,	60
nagwaanaawu yé.	that he could die.	
Ldakát yá lingit'aaní gei yoo	He went all over the world.	
kaawagút.		
Aagáa áwé,	And then,	
yááy yíkde wdakeení	he flew in a whale	
tlél wunaa.	and did not die.	65
Du een yan wulítít.	He floated ashore with it.	
Yááy yíkde wdakeení	When he flew in the whale,	
áyá aadé áyá tuligéi yá yáat.	he realized it is big in here.	
Áwé kei.á yéi awsinéi	He is the one who brought the daylight,	
hú áyá, yú.á Yéil.	him, they say, Raven.	70
Héi! Gunéi a xoo shgé,	My! Did he begin among it,	
ák.wé yoo duwasáagu yé?	at that place he was called that?	
Áx' áwé kei awagútch.	There people are going up.	
Yáx taat tukwáani keekát	There he went across to the people of	
uwagút áx'.	the night, there.	
Tlél awuskú goox' sá yéi teeyí.	He didn't know where he was.	
Áwé ch'a yoo x'atángi tsú áwé	And just language, too, he was asking.	
x'awliwóos'.		
« Áx shoodé » yéi x'ayaká,	"Along towards the end," he says,	
« Ax shoodé	"Along towards the end	
ee káa kei.á nkwaak'óots. »	I just might break daylight on you." 75	
Dax.aa yéi yānakaa áwé tsá,	Only then, two of them he said:	
« Yee káa kee.á nkwaak'óots. »	I just might break daylight on you all."	

« Goodáx̄ Naas Sháak i yát sáyú	From where did this child of the Head of the Naas River	
k̄ee.á du jée yéi ngatee? » yéi dudziḱaa.	come to have the daybreak?" it was said to him.	
Tle aawa.áx̄.	Then he heard it.	80
Ách áwé tléináx̄ shát kei woogoot,	That is why one wife cameup,	
Yéil k̄u.aa.	Raven, though.	
Tléil ch'a du tláach áwé wusá « Yéil »; yóo k̄ées' kaḱ duldél	His mother just did not name him « Yéil »; that tide is being watched,	85
káa shaanákw áwé a x̄áni neil wujikák̄ hú k̄u.aa.	the little old lady, on it, he squats down beside her, at her home, him.	
Áwé	And,	
« Néés' geihéeni x̄at sawli.át' » tle	"The water in a sea urchin has chilled me," then	90
a dzúkde a yanax̄ áwé datánch áwé gán.	he lays along behind her, the fire.	
A dzúkdáx̄ tóode akawsiháa, gánt uwataa	From behind her, he fit himself in there, and then slept by the fire.	
Áwé.	That's it.	
Yéi ash yawsik̄aa:	She said to him:	95
« tsá gútk̄ gí yaa gaa sá wulaayi lein áyá.	"it would be so good when the tide goes out.	
a kát iyanís' ch'a Yéil tl'éetl'i! »	you can go gather sea urchins, shitty Raven."	
Yóo ash yawsik̄aa.	She said to him.	
Ách áyá tle kindatóogun aawaḱéech	This is why he threw her upside down.	100
a tuḱdaanáx̄ akawsigoo wé néés' daakak'áts'i.	and poked around her butt with sea urchin spines.	
Kadagáax̄ ash jeedé,	She is crying out from what he is doing,	

désgwách yéi naléin,	and the tide is already going out,	
désgwách yánde yaa kanalkúx.	and it's already becoming dry.	105
« Dé Yéil gwagwaaláa! » yéi ash daayaká.	"It already has gone out, Raven!" she is saying to him.	
Yéil.	Raven.	
Ách áwé « Yéil » yóo wduwasáa.	That is why he was named « Yéil ».	
« Ná! Tléel at kgeegwaal. »	"Take it! You're not going to hit."	
Haa. Yéi áwé.	Well. That is how it was.	
Áwé.	Yeah.	
Yan kalakóox áwé,	As it is becoming dry,	110
ldakát át xoot uwaláa.	it goes out from everything.	
Yáaÿ,	Whale,	
tsaa,	seal,	
daakw.aa sá	whichever of	
yá hintak.ádi	the water creatures.	115
Ch'a yá shaa x'áak áwé yéi téeyin,	Just at the saddle of the mountains,	
yú áwé kées' kanadá.	the tide is flowing.	
Wé díis kées' akawusdaayí.	The moon is causing the tide the flow.	
Áwé, aagáa áwé,	And then,	
a éenyee kóon wooyíkt aawax'úl'	in her armpit, she is plucking these flicker's feathers,	120
wé du káak shát.	that wife of his uncle.	
Du dlaak' jeex' l yát awuswádich	His sister's children never grew up	
áwé yéi awsinéi.	because of what he did.	
Tle kawdliyíchx'.	Then they flew.	125
Éenyee kóon yóo aawasáa.	They were named armpit flicker.	
Áwé tle kawdliyíchx'	And then they flew.	
Aaa.	Yes.	
Yéi áwé.	That is how it is.	
Áa kux dagóot áwé, wéit,	He comes back there, to there,	

wé át̄x wugoodí yé.	that place he is going along.	
Aagáa áwé wé,	And then that,	
du jeēȳu wé kei.á,	he has that daylight,	
tle aawa.á̄x	then he heard it.	
Yaax̄ taat̄ tukwáani keekát	He went across to the people of the	
uwagút	night,	
Naas Shaayídá̄x	from the Naas mountain.	135
A keekát daak góot áwé,	He emerged on the other side	
yéi ayawsikaa:	and said to them:	
« Ax̄ shoodéi!	“Towards the end of it,	
yee kaa kei.á nk̄wak’oots. »	I might break daylight on you all. »	
Héi! Wáa sá	My. How	140
akool̄xeitl’ x̄a woosh kát	afraid they were to show they faces to	
yawdixún.	one another.	
Tsaa x’óow s’aatx’í,	Masters of the seal blanket,	
tsaa x’óow s’aatx’í, daa sá	masters of the seal blanket, what	
ldakát at	everything	
yá naagas’éi x’óow̄x̄ dulyeix̄ ka	a fox blanket is used, and	
s’aāx̄ x’óow.	a marmot blanket.	145
Áwé kei.á yá̄x̄	And this daybreak,	
yú yánde yanalts’oox̄ ...	once it moved towards the shore ...	
Hé! Tle keiwa.aa.	My! The day broke.	
« Aaahhhh! »	Ahhhh!	
Dei yéi áwé,	It was that way fast,	150
tle tsaa x’oow s’aatx’í	then the masters of the seal blanket	
héent luwagúk̄ tle,	ran into the water,	
tle tsaax̄ wusitee.	they became seals then.	
Wé	those	
daākt̄ woo.adi át̄ ku.aa áwé	inland things, though, went straight	
dākdachoon áwé át̄ kaawa.át̄	inland and walked around	
yú shaa yaadé.	towards the face of the mountains.	155
Tléil tsu tle át̄ utí	Then there was nothing there,	

yú gunaa xoox' kei.á	among that place where	
aawak'oots yé.	he broke the daylight.	
Ch'u tle yáadax,	Just then from here,	
ch'u tle,	just then,	160
yá té S'etakdax shgí	this rock from Situk.	
S'etak tléil gé yisateen,	Situk, did you ever see it,	
S'etak?	Situk?	
Tle aatx áwé tle yóot, tliyaadé,	Then from there, over to there, over that	
tle yóot.	way,	
Tle yoo Lak'ásgi X'aayí	then over to there.	165
diyáay tliyaanax.á	Then over to Black Seaweed Point,	
naaléi tsú.	across it, to the area on the other side,	
Tle át áwé shukatán wé téix',	it is a long ways, too.	
át wudikel'i yé áwé.	Then those rocks extend to there,	
Woosh dakán áwé wdikéil'.	The place where they ran away.	170
Há! Kei.á yéi awusnei, Yéil.	They ran away from each other.	
A kát kei.á aawak'oots aa shí.	My! He made the daybreak, Raven.	
Xwasikóo.	A song for breaking the daylight,	
Há! Ch'u tlél kútx ku.aa áwé	I know it.	
yawdi.á.	My! It really has not been	175
Kei.á awuk'oodzí	detained and lost.	
ka-a-a-a-a	The breaking of the daylight.	
yú	a-a-a-and	
kei.á anak'óotsdax hóoch'	that	
Tle dé k'idéin x'eewa.atx.	from the daybreak, it's gone.	
Yéil	Then you already say it well.	
yéi duwasáakw,	« Yéil »	
ch'u tle yéi wduwasaa Yéil, yú	that is what he is called,	180
yú kaa shaanákwch aadé	and then he was just named « Yéil», that	
aawasayi yeix.	that little old lady on it, that is how she	
	named him.	

Shux'wáa ƙwa tlél yéi dusaagún.	At first he was not named.	
Áwé,	Well,	
wé nées' daaklikáts'i, a túkdaanáx akawusgoowúch áwé yéi aawasáa.	those sea urchin spines, he was poking her around the butt with it, and shenamed him so.	185
L yax dats'éini sákw.	He would become the one that is always mischievous.	
Ldakát yéide yoo kawdzigít	He is always messing with things everywhere	
yá Lingit'aaní géi.	around the world.	
Áwé wéit	Yeah, over there,	
yóot'aa gé yisikóo káa yaakw?	that one way over there, do you know it, that person's canoe?	190
Áwé du yík wooleedí áwé, du yaagú,	It is the one he speeds around in, his canoe,	
Yéil yaagú áwé.	that is Raven's canoe.	
Áwé a kát awa.óo shgé?	That might be the one he used.	195
Yú shaká áyá, ƙu.aa tle yóo anax ƙuwdi.áxw.	The prow of it, he was really bound to that boat.	
Áwé du yaagú léet áwé.	It was his boat that went around fast.	
Yá « átx hán » yóo duwasáagu átx wuyáa t'akkaadé duwatini a ƙwa s.	This thing called "standing along there" it's as they are paddling beside it, it was them.	200
Du aadé át áa áwé, átx hán.	Towards him, he is sitting there, and they stand there.	
Aadáx ƙu.aa áwé kei aawaxásh taaŷ átx.	And after that he is cutting it off, the fat there.	
Áwé ch'a koogéiyi wé éil' káx' teix awsitee.	And just any old way, on the salt water, he makes them stone.	205
Ƙa yú yánt akaawaháa shgí, kát han aawát.	Maybe when it came to shore, it was standing there.	

A shóonáx aa wduwaxásh	Some was cut from the end,	
Á áwé.	That was it.	
Hú áwé Yéil áwé yéi	It was him, Raven, that is how he was.	210
kuwanóokw,		
Du hídi ku.aa áwé yáanáx át	It was situated in front of his house,	
la.áa,		
wé	that	
du katseesí tsú anax naashóo.	his buoy, too, was sticking up there.	
Tsú tla _x yéi a daax haa yawlis'ís.	We really are blown around that place,	
	too.	
É!	My!	
Áwé yeedát héináx aadé	And now, it is told here,	215
kdunéek		
áhó, hú.	oh my, him.	
Tle yá t'átgi shú.	Then the edge of the land.	
Yéil,	Raven,	
áx' yéi yatee,	he is there,	
té hítx awliyéx.	using a rock for a house.	220
Yéi áwé.	That is how it is.	
(at wushook)	(laughter)	
	FdL: Is he gonna sing a song to go with the story? Ask him if he'll do that.	
HB: i tuwáx' gé sigóo eesheeyí	Do you want to sing	
wé a kát kei.á aawak'oodzí	that breaking daylight song?	225
shí?		
Wáa sá?	How's that?	
HB: A kát kei.á aawak'oodzí	The breaking daylight song, you're	
shí, áwé kei kgeeshée.	going to sing it.	
Wáa sá?	How's that?	
A kát kei.a aawak'oodzí shí	The breaking daylight song?	
ák.wé?		
HB: Yáat wéit'aa sháa.	Here, that one woman there.	
Aaa. A kát xá kei.a aawak'oodzí	Yes. The breaking daylight song, you see.	
shí.		

HB: Ch'a wáa sǵí s gageeshée? Hel du áтч.	Just however you may sing it. She doesn't understand.	
Aaa, xwasikóo.	Yes, I know it.	
Xwasikóo, ax léelk'w hás x'éitx xwasikóo.	I know it, from the lips of my grandparents, I know it.	230
Ax kagwáali áyá ax tuwáa sigóo.	I want my drumstick.	
Wé gaaw ku.aa áwé, tlél ch'a yéi, ch'a yéi, gaaw wéit'at áwé. (at shook)	That drum, though, just not, just, just that one there. (laughter)	
Haaw.	Well.	235
Shuxw'áa kei akaawashéeyi aa, de du jee hú áyú kee.á.	First this one will begin to be sung, He already had the daybreak way over there.	
De Naas Sháakdáx yawaagoot.	He had already begun walking back from the Head of the Naas.	
Atk'átsk'u _x wusitee Naas Sháakx' ku.aa.	He was a child at the Head of the Naas, though.	
Koowdzitee.	He was born.	240
Aanýádi eet sh jiwldliháa. Á áwé kugasteedáx áwé. Aagáa áwé, Ldakát át awdzigáax yá neil yee du jeex'.	He had made himself into a nobleman. That is, from being born. And then, Everything he cried for in that house was given to him.	
Naas Sháagi Yéil. Du jeet gaxwusitee. Daa sá kutx.ayanahá daakeit shux'wáanáx du jeet kaduwak'él'.	Naas River Raven. They cried for what he had taken. Whatever one, the container of stars, was the first one untied for him.	
A ítde gáan a káawu jilixút' ch'u tle ldakát yá Lingít'aanix' yéi woonei yá kutx.ayanahá.	After that he threw them outside and just then, over the whole world the stars were there.	

Kuchéin Frank Italio

« Áwé, a ítde tle díside ch'a kgeegáax. »	“And after that you just will cry for the moon.”
Áwé, ch'a aadé sixáni yé tsú wé du dachxán,	Well, just the way that he loved his grandchild,
áwé Naas Sháagí Yéil xá tle tsú	that was the Head of the Naas Raven, you see
Wé káa a jeedé kaawanaa.	That man said to give it to him.
De kaa gei át áyá du tuwatee.	He already wanted it to be with the people.
Át xá at góot áwé wé ldakát taat tukwáani	All the people of the night were walking all around, you see,
géit aa haat uwagút.	and he came out to meet them.
Ch'u hú tukka sheeyí áyá yá Yéil de shukalxúx's,	It's just him, a song from down below, this Raven is calling the end from the beginning,
ch'u hú ash toodé shukalxúxs'.	it's just him, into himself he calls the end from the beginning.

[sings daylight song]

History:

This recording was made by Frederica de Laguna on 7 May 1954 during her second trip to Yakutat. She was particularly interested in the recording of songs during this trip as evinced by the large variety of songs in the American Philosophical Society archive from 1954. This particular recording was originally labeled by de Laguna as “reel 2-2-E”, later digitized as APSdigrec_1016 (audio:6920).

Notes

10. **kéet áwé du éeshx sitee:** When Frederica de Laguna consulted some of her translators about this point they said that Kuchéin Frank Italio was incorrect and that Raven did not have the killerwhale Gooshtuwool as his father. Rather, “the child who was to become Raven” was instead “the rock which the woman swallowed” (De Laguna 1972: 848). It may be that Kuchéin Frank Italio meant Gooshtuwool was the metaphorical or magical father of Raven since he instructed Raven's mother on how to become pregnant with the shanyaateiyí low tide stone, and that this metaphor was unclear to de Laguna's consultants.