

Kaax'achgóok

Ixt'ik' Eesh x'éidax sh kalneek

Yá Sheet'kaadax aa
Kiks.ádi
ldakát yéidei áyá yoo haa kaawanéi.
Xáat Kwáanix haa wsitee,
Aak'wtaatseen.
Kooshdaa Kwáani xoox' tsú yéi aa wootee,
Kaakáa.
Haa xoodax tsú daak aa wlis'is,
Kaax'achgóok.
Yoo kdujeek nuch áyá aadóo sá yoo x'atangi. 10
Ax éesh
Tak'xoo.
L.aanteech du kéilk'.
Ax léelk'w
Kaak'wáji
ka tsu ax léelk'u tlein
Kaat'aláa
ax éesh niyaanax.
Daax'oon áyá téeyin ax saayi
ax yáa wduwasayi saax'w. 20
Dleit káach tle tlél átx ulyeix.
Ixt'ik' Eesh,
Woolshook.
Yáat'aa kwá ax léelk'u hásch áyá ax yáa uwasayi
saa áyá.

Kaax'achgóok

told by Andrew P. Johnson

To those of us Kiks.ádi
from Sitka,
many things happened.
We became salmon people,
Aak'wtaatseen.
One of us also stayed with Kooshdaa Kwáani,
Kaakáa.
And one of us sailed out,
Kaax'achgóok.
People usually wonder who is talking. 10
My father
was Tak'xoo.
He was the nephew of L.aanteech.
My grandfather
was Kaak'wáji
and my great grandfather
Kaat'aláa,
on my father's side.
I have four names,
names given to me. 20
A white man would not use them.
Ixt'ik' Eesh,
Woolshook.
This one though was given to me by my
grandparents.

Shaayeexáak
ka Wasdéik.
 Yá ax tlaakáak háš
 has du sh kalneegi áyá yee een kakkwalaneek,
Kaax'achgóok daak wuls'eesí.
 Sheet'ká yóo wduwasayi yé
 yá Lingít aani áwé
 Sheet'ká.
 Yáa yeedát yéi duwasáagu yé
 Old Sitka.
 Á ku.aa wé tlél Sheet'ká áwé.
Gajaahéen yóo áwé wduwasáa,
 yá haanaanáx aadéi aa tliyaadéi kwás
Walachéix'i.
 A digiygéix' áwé s awulyeixín wé Noow Tlein, yá
 Anóoshich.
 Ayá yeedát Old Sitka yóo duwasáakw Dleit Káach.
 Ch'a át áyá haa kundayeijín taakw.eetix'.
 Wáa nganein sáwé
 yá Ch'al'geiyita.aan
 áa yéi haa nateech.
 A itnáx áwé
 tsu wéit kawtushitán Shaaseiyi.aan.
 Taakw.eetít kugahéinín
x'óon áyá yan usdáaych.
 Ldakát yá x'áat'x'i xoox' yéi nateech.
 Ayá kadulshakxi nuch
 woosáani tin.
 Daxyeeekaadéi yú téeyin yú woosáni.
 Yá kátdei kduxatxi át
 at kadzaasí,
 wáa wdukaayí sá kwshí wé?
 At s'aan.aaxw dzaas yóo dusáaych.
Gaadlaani yé yís aa á.
Ka tsu at shaxishdi dzaas
 l gwaadlaani yé yís aa.
 Dáxnáx áyú wooch káa aawasháa
Kaax'achgóok.
 Yanwát
ka yées shaawát.
Kalsháxx áyá akooshtánin.
 Tléel kei jeexíxch.
 At s'aatix áyú sitee.

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Shaayeexáak
 and Wasdéik.
 This story I will tell you
 is of my mother's maternal uncles,
 when Kaax'achgook sailed out.
 The place named Sitka
 was a Tlingit village,
 Sitka.
 It is the place now called
 Old Sitka.
 But that place is not Sitka.
 They called it Gajaahéen.
 It is the one on this side; on the other side
 is Walach'éix'i.
 In between Noow Tlein was built by the Russians.
 Now it is called Old Sitka by the white folks.
 We only used to travel around in spring.
 Once in a while
 we lived there
 in Ch'al'geiyita.aan.
 After this
 we frequented Shaaseiyi.aan.
 When spring came
 fur seals would drift in on the tide.
 They would be throughout all these islands.
 This is what people used to tire out and kill
 with spears.
 They used two different kinds of spears.
 How long
 were the thongs
 that were tied to the spear point?
 They were called at s'aan.aaxw dzaas.
 They were for a deep place.
 And the thongs that battered the head
 for a shallow place.
Kaax'achgóok
 had two wives.
 An older woman
 and a younger woman.
 He frequently went hunting sea mammals.
 He never lost out.
 He was a master hunter.
 Well, I wonder what happened to him.

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Ha ch'a wáa ku.aa sá kwshí yá yoo kaawanéi?
 Tsu daak kóox áwé s'ootaat
 é! desgwach awoostákxaa.
 De yaa jindaxwétl.
 Yá x'óon át shasatin yéidei áwé gunéi s uwakúx 70
 du keilk'i hás teen.
 A xoodéi áwé kadagáax wé x'óon yádi.
 A tóodei áwé kaa seiwa.áx
 "Ihi!
 Ihi! Sh eelk'átl'!
 Kaax'achgóok át nakuxji yé áyá,
 Kaax'achgóok."
 Du keilk'i hás áwé yéi ayawsikaa
 "yándeí déi,
 yándeí déi!" 80
 Gunéi s uwakúx tle.
 Aan eegayáakt has kóox
 tle héeni wugoodí áwé,
 shakáadeix áwé sitee,
 tlék'gaa áwé a shakaadáx yéi adaané
 du woosáani gootl; tle akal'ix't.
 Héendei aléet.
 Ldakát yax ayalal'éex' áwé tsá
 dákdei gunayéi uwagút.
 Tlax wáa sáyú x'egaa adanoogún yú x'óon dleeyi 90
 yá yées aa du shát.
 Ach áwé tlax yéi
 yan ooxeechch kalshákx.
 Xáanaa áwé at gadus.ée; at duxá.
 Yú k'wátl yóo tuwasáagu át
 kákw áwé
 k'idéin wuduwa.agi aa kákw.
 Yawdagaat'aayi té áwé a kaadéi dugich nuch; áwé
 ul.úkch tle.
 A kát adush.utlxi nuch; dleey tsú a kát dustéix
 yú.á.
 Ahé shaawát áwé agawdzi.ée; agawdzitáa wé x'óon
 dleeyi. 100
 S'ix' kaadéi áwé yéi adaané.
 Áwé yées aa du shát wé Kaax'achgóok du shát áwé
 du s'ix'i tle át aawatán.
 "Taxhéenak'u a kát yilaxwén."
 Tle yáadei áwé yóo wdudzinei du s'ix'i.

When he went out again in the morning,
 drat! he began missing his target.
 His arms were tiring.
 With his sisters' sons 70
 he started for the place where the fur seals
 were floating in a cluster.
 He heard the sound of a fur seal pup crying.
 Among the cries he heard a human voice:
 "Don't!
 Don't! Hush!
 This is the place where Kaax'achgóok hunts,
 Kaax'achgóok."
 He said to his maternal nephews,
 "Let's go in now,
 let's go in now!" 80
 Then they started going.
 When they reached the beach of their village,
 as he stepped out into the water,
 he was a bow man,
 one by one he took his spears
 from the bow; then he broke them one by one.
 He threw them into the sea.
 When he had broken them all then
 he started up.
 How his young wife 90
 loved eating fur seal meat.
 That was why
 he worked so hard at tiring fur seals out.
 One evening people were cooking; they were
 eating.
 These things we call cooking pots
 were baskets,
 tightly woven baskets.
 Heated stones were thrown into them; it would
 boil.
 People would boil salmon in these;
 meat was also boiled in them, it's said.
 This one woman cooked some; she boiled some 100
 seal meat.
 She spooned it in a dish.
 The young wife of his, this wife of Kaax'achgóok,
 slid her dish along side of it.
 "Couldn't you spoon some broth on this?"

Ahé tlax eeshandéin
 du toowú awsinei
 yá Kaax'achgóok ku.a.
 Tle yan at duxáa áwé yéi ayawsikaa du
 shatx'iyán, "Já'
 ax kaaniyán xoodéi nay.á.
 Yéi s yanaysaká,
 'Woosáani eetínáx áyá yatee Kaax'achgóok
 woosáani eetínáx.'" 110
 Neil has áat áwé has du itx áwé yaa yéi ndusnein
 tlax wáa dagaak'éiyi aa woosáanx'i sáwé
 du kaaniyán jeedáx át á.
 S'ootaat áwé yaax has woo.aat.
 Gunéi s uwakúx.
 A xoot áwé s wookoox.
 Tlax du waakgáa wooteeyi aa áwé aawaták.
 At s'aan.aaxw dzaas á, a káa yéi yatee. 120
 Tlél áyú yindei aan wultsees wé x'oon ku.a.
 Héen xukáx áwé yaa nashk'én dákdei yinaadéi.
 Yá Ch'al'geiyita.aan
 yakáa yéi dagaateeyi x'áat'
 deikéenax.áa s kaháa áwé
 ch'a yeisú yaa nashk'én has du shukáx.
 Ch'a a itx yaa s nakúxu
 k'eeljáa tlein has du kát agoowashát.
 Tup!
 At wushtóogu yáx áwé woonei. 130
 Tle tláakw áwé kúxdei s ayawdli.át yándeí.
 "Yee gu.aa yáx x'wán, ax keilk'i hás,
 yee gu.aa yáx x'wán.
 Tlax yindei naytsóow yee axáayi."
 E'! tláakw áwé aduxáa.
 Kaa x'anawóos'ch.
 "Ch'a yeisú a shukaadéi ge yaa ntookúx?"
 "Tléik'!
 Tléik'! de tliyéix' áyá yéi haa yatee."
 "Tláakw!
 Tláakw ayxáa!" 140
 Wáa nanée sáwé yéi yawdudzikaa.
 "Ha de kúxdei áyá yaa haa nalhásh." De
 xánaadéi yaa kunahéin.
 Ch'a yeisú ayawditee.
 Wáa wdaxweidlí sáyá kik'i.aa

They pushed her dish to the side.
 This made
 Kaax'achgóok
 feel pitiful.
 As soon as they finished eating he told his
 wives, "Ja',
 go to my brothers-in-law.
 Say to them, 110
 'Kaax'achgóok is in need of spears,
 in need of spears.'"
 When his wives came home men were carrying
 behind them
 some very nice spears
 from his brothers-in-law.
 At dawn they went aboard.
 They started going.
 They came among the fur seals.
 He speared the one he thought was nice.
 The point that tangles around the animal was 120
 on his spear.
 But the fur seal didn't dive down with the spear.
 It was jumping on the surface heading for the
 open sea.
 When they were on the outside of the islands
 off Ch'al'geiyita.aan
 when they were outside of them,
 it was still jumping on the surface ahead of them.
 While they were chasing it,
 a strong wind storm overtook them.
 Tup!
 It was as swift as a gun shot. 130
 They quickly turned back towards land.
 "Be brave, my nephews
 be brave.
 Push your paddles way down."
 Oh, they paddled fast.
 He would ask them,
 "Is the boat still moving ahead?"
 "No!
 No!" "We're not moving now."
 "Hurry!
 Hurry! Paddle!" 140
 In a while they said to him

du kéilk'.

Yaakwdéi aawataan du axáayi.

Jilkáatdáx áyú du.óow noojín yá tsáalk.

Tsálgí x'óow

á áwé 150

átx dulyeixín.

Yan sh wudzitáa shanáa wdis'it.

Ldakát yaakwdéi kawdaxduwayish kaa axáax'u.

Yándeí sh dul.aat.

Kaa itnáx áwé tsá yaakwdéi aawataan

du axáayi, Kaax'achgook.

Gunéi s wulis'is.

Kayikduwa.áxch k'eeljáa tlein.

Teet.

Hél has kool.áxch 160

a t'éiknáx.

Tlax x'oon aa yagiyee shunaxéex sáwé

ch'a yeisú axéx'w.

Tle aadéi sh wududli.ús. "Ch'a gaa déi,

ch'a gaa déi yéi kunganei."

S'ootaat áwé.

Kaax'achgookch kayak.uwa.áx.

Hé', goodáx aantkeení sáhé? Tlax yéi daléich.

Ldakát áwé duléich yéi.

Aa sá kwshí yóo gé tlax yéi daléich? 170

Ldaagéinax áwé shanáadáx daak awdiyish

du x'óowu.

Yatx awdligén.

Yánt áwé yoo liháshk has du yaagú ku.a.

Analgéin áwé gwál l'awx'áat'i tlein gwáa yóo gé?

Tlax ligéi yú x'áat' tlein.

A kaanáx áwé kawdi.áa kayaanx'i.

Ch'u tle wdzik'ik' áyú yú át ku.a; k'ineilx'u

a káa kaawa.aa.

Yóo kaa yayik ku.a

xach wéi át ásgiwé

x'óon 180

taan

yáxwch'.

Ldakát yá héen táanáx kudaxdziteeyi át áwé

á kát kéen.

Ashawsikéi du keilk'i hás.

"Shaydaké!

"We're drifting backward now." It was toward dusk.

The wind still kept on blowing.

How tired was his younger

nephew.

He pulled his paddle into the boat.

They usually bought those ground squirrels from

Chilkat.

Ground squirrel robes

were the ones used 150

in those days.

He lay back, wrapping the robe around his head.

All of them pulled their paddles aboard.

They began lying down.

Kaax'achgook was the last one

to pull his paddle aboard.

The wind began to carry them.

They could hear the loud sound of the storm wind.

Waves.

They were deaf 160

to anything else but the wind.

When many days went by

they were still asleep.

They had given up. "Let's just let it happen,

let's just let it happen to us."

It was in the morning.

Kaax'achgook heard the noises.

My! Where did all the people come from? How they

yelled!

They were all yelling that way.

Who were they that yelled that way? 170

From around his head he slowly lowered his robe.

He looked up.

Their boat was floating against the beach.

When he looked around he thought,

"Isn't that a big sand island?"

It was very large, that big island.

Grass was growing on it.

It was very dense; bamboo

grew on the island.

But the voices though,

weren't they

fur seal

sea lion 180

Shaydaké! Yan áyá haa wlihásh."
 Goo sá kwshí yá át kuwlihásh?
 Tléel yawduteen.
 Daak has at kajéil 190
 aagáa áwé daak wuduwatán has du yaagú;
 at gutóox'
 daak has aawatán.
 "Dlinkwát x'wán yilatín
 yee yaagú, ax keilk'i hás.
 Dlinkwát x'wán yilatín." kaa shukoojeis'
Kaax'achgóok.
 A góot ágé
 wé dáadzi
 aan shóox adu.ak át?
 Wooch yát yóo shaduwateek. 200
 K'át
 kát adu.aak
 wé gán.
 Aa wduwaják wé x'ónon
 shawduwaxích.
 At gadus.ée.
 Hél koolk'átl'k.
 Yan at duxáa áwé yéi kuyawsikaa
 "ch'a tlákw yagiyee x'wán a daa yanay.á.
 Yee yaagú dlinkwát yilatín. 210
 Aaa.
 Tléel wáa sáyú uneigík yóo
 ka haa at xaayí sákw tsú.
 Aa gaxyilaxwáchs'
 wé x'ónon doogú
 ka wé at dookx'ú.
 Wé taan doogú ku.aa wés dzaas sákw áwé.
 K'wát' yáx áwé kagaxyisahánt
 naxlayát'gix'i
 wé dzaasx'." 220
 A yáx áwé yéi jiduné.
 A xoo aa dleey dut'óos'
 dusxook; yándeí yaa ndusnein.
 Tléel áyá héen a ká
 yú x'áat'.
 Tlé yíndeí kanaltleich wé héen ku.a l'éiw
 tóodei.
 Yá k'eeljáach aax wudagaal'ix'i aa kineilx'ú

and sea otter?
 Many kinds of sea mammals
 were sitting on it.
 He woke his nephews.
 "Wake up!
 Wake up! We've drifted ashore."
 Where was it they had drifted?
 They didn't recognize it.
 When they had carried everything up the beach 190
 then they brought their canoe up the beach; they
 brought it up
 into some bushes.
 "Remember to take good care
 of your boat, my maternal nephews.
 Remember to take good care of it," Kaax'achgóok
 instructed.
 Were they without
 fire rubbing sticks,
 the things you start a fire with?
 They're rubbed together. 200
 They made
 a big
 fire.
 One fur seal was killed,
 clubbed on the head.
 They cooked.
 They were quiet.
 When they finished eating he told them
 "Remember to check it frequently.
 Remember to take care of your boat. 210
 Yes.
 Don't let anything happen to it
 or the things for our food either.
 You'll tan some
 of the fur seal skins
 and other skins.
 But make the sea lions into thongs.
 You can cut them in a circular motion
 so that those thongs
 can be long." 220
 They worked like he said.
 Some of them barbecued meat
 and dried it; they were nearly finished.

agoowx'ú áwé yax shayawlit's'it'
 héen, séew héeni.
 A áwé duná.
 Tléel tsu héen a kát koodéin wé x'áat' ku.a. 230
 Tlákw yéi jiduné tlákw yigiyee.
 Xáanaadéi áwé
 xáanaadéi yaa kukqahéinín áwé
 gáanx' áwé ganúkch.
 Katushatánin
 yándeí wdagaawadi aa
 yá gáant keen.
 "A.án" yóo toosáakw nooch.
 Xach yóo a káx' ásgí yú yan kuwoodáaych
 yá kutx.ayanahá, 240
 K'óoxdísí
 ka wé
 Lk'ayáak'w
 a ya.eetí.
 A káa yan kuwoodáaych goox' sá kawuhaayi
 ka yú dís anax kéi xixji yé
 ka gagaan anax yéi xixji yé.
 A káa yan kuwoodáaych.
 A káax' áwé át kuyanagwéijin.
 A káax' tsú yéi at daaduné. 250
 Áwé ooltínch xáanaadéi;
 Kaax'achgóok áa ganúkch.
 Tle k'át kukawushgéedi áwé tsá yan sh ustáaych;
 nateich.
 Desgwach tléix' táakw
 desgwach a yáanáx.
 Tléel wáa sá yoo wookéik
 Kaax'achgóok ku.a.
 E'! teesh déin kuwdagaanei.
 Goosú kaa aani?
 Goonax áwu sá kwshí? 260
 Tléel wuduskú.
 Tle kaan naasa.áa
 a yanaak.áat'ani
 kát tani yáx áwé yatee.
 Hél wuduskú goonax.á sá.
 Kaax'achgóok ku.aa sgiwé de
 a daax yaawa.aa.
 Ax' áwé kaa jikaawakáa wé k'ineilx'ú,

There was no water
 on this island.
 But the water would seep into the sand.
 Where the wind storm broke the bamboo, the
 stumps were filled
 with water, rain water.
 That's what they drank.
 There wasn't another drop of water on the 230
 island though.
 They worked all the time every day.
 Toward evening,
 toward evening when it was becoming dusk,
 Kaax'achgóok would sit outside.
 People who were elders
 routinely
 sat outside.
 We used to call it "a.án."
 Here they checked
 the stars, 240
 Venus
 and
 the Milky
 Way.
 They would check where they were now,
 and where the moon was rising from
 and where the sun was rising from.
 They would check.
 People used this as a map.
 They used it also to work by. 250
 That's what he would look at toward evening.
 Kaax'achgóok would sit there.
 When night fell he finally lay back; he'd sleep.
 It was already
 more than a year.
 But Kaax'achgóok
 didn't say much.
 My, they would get lonely.
 Where was their village?
 Where was it? 260
 They didn't know.
 It was like a container
 with the lid
 lying on top of them.

yaakw yáx kudayat' aa
 déix. 270
 A shóodei áwé wduwadúx'
 wé at yoowú
 x'óon yoowú; l'éiw a tóo yéi daxduwa.óo.
 Yá taan yoowú ku.a wés wudaxduwa.úx héen daakeit
 sákw aa.
 Wé taan x'adaadzaayí tlax dliyat'gix'i aa
 kaa x'usyee.ádi sákw
 kaa x'usyee.ádi sákw áwé á ku.a.
 Daa dus.aaxw tle.
 Há'! desgwach kei jiyamayék yá wdudlixwaji at
 dookx'ú tlax wáa dagaak'éiyi aa sá.
 Kaa at xaayí tsú de yan kawduligáa. 280
 Xáanaadéi áwé yéi kuyawsikaa Kaax'achgóok
 "Eeti.aa yigiyee
 s'ootaatx' áwé gunéi gaxtookóox.
 Ch'u yaxté atan kadaxwás'i
 gunéi gaxtookóox."
 Ch'u s'ootáat áwé l at gooháayi shawduwakée
 tle yaakw yíkt kawduwajél.
 Yú dikee.ádi káax' áwé yan ayawsitán
 Kaax'achgóok wé yaakw.
 Eeeeei, 290
 k'e aduxáa.
 Ch'a aadéi aduxaa yéidei áwé at duxá.
 Wé wdudzi.iyi dleey ka wdudzixugu aa
 at duxá.
 Xáanaadéi áwé shawdudziyaa
 wé shayéinaa sákw,
 k'ineilx'ú.
 At yoowx'ú a shóo wdaxduwadúx'
 l'éiw a tóo yéi dagaatee wé at yoowx'ú.
 A áwé tle héeni kawdaxdudliyaa, 300
 yáanax.á
 a yat'ák ka yáanax.á, yindei
 naaliyéidei kawdaxdudliyaa.
 Ahé tlél gunéi kuwulhaash taatx'
 yá axéx'xu.
 Tsu s'ootaatx' áwé tsu gunayéi has ukooxch.
 Eeeei!
 K'e aduxaa nuch.
 Héel k'át héen duná.

Nobody knew where they were.
 But Kaax'achgóok
 had figured it out already.
 He told them to get bamboo,
 two,
 as long as the boat. 270
 To the end they tied
 the stomachs
 fur seal stomachs; they put sand into them.
 But the sea lion stomachs they inflated for
 water containers.
 And the sea lion whiskers, the very long ones
 were for under their feet,
 for under their feet,
 They began tying them in bundles.
 My! They were piled high,
 those tanned skins, the very nice ones.
 They gathered all their preserved food too. 280
 Toward evening Kaax'achgóok said to them,
 "We will be leaving
 first thing in the morning.
 We'll start out
 while the handle of the big dipper is still
 visible."
 When it was early morning,
 while they still couldn't see, they woke
 and loaded the boat.
 Kaax'achgóok steered the boat
 by the stars.
 Ohhhh 290
 did they paddle.
 They ate while they paddled.
 The meat they had cooked and the ones they dried
 they ate.
 Toward evening they anchored with the things
 they had made for anchors,
 bamboos.
 They had tied the stomachs to the end,
 the stomachs with the sand inside them.
 That was what they lowered into the sea, 300
 one on one side
 and another on the other side; down
 deep they lowered them.

Ch'a kaa jeewú kwá at yoowx'ú tóo yéi dagaatee 310
 wé héen.
 X'oon kuxéi sáwé
 yá éil' káx'.
 Tléinax aach áwé t'aayaawakaa
 "Háa! wé kéidladi xáa wé! Haa shukát wulihaash.
 Yóodu á!
 Aadéi yanal.á!
 Tle a káa yan yasatán!"
 De yeisdé ku.aa wé yaa kunahéin.
 Ha gwál de táakwdei yinaadéi ku.a áyú. 320
 De shaa yaadéi de aléet yá dleit.
 Desgwach héennax kei yanaxásh
 wé kéidladi ku.a.
 Xach L'úx shakée ásgí wé.
 Dleitx'i sáani áa yéi yatee.
 Á áwé kéidladi yóo s aawasáa.
 Tlél áyú tlax kaa tuwáa ushgú wdusaayi
 yá shaax sateeyí.
 K'idéin a daa kuyana.áa áwé
 yéi kuyawsikaa, "Yá a jigeidéi x'wán. 330
 Yan yasatán wé yaakw.
 Góok,
 yíndei naytsóow
 yee axáayi. "
 E'! tláakw áwé aduxáa.
 Tle a kát kaa seiwax'ákw kaa at xaayi
ka wé héen.
 Tláakw aduxáa.
 Yá eechx'i t'éinax áa kóox
 sú áyú áa wsi.aa 340
 a géeknax áwé yaax shukawdudzitee
ka a shakaanax.
 Tle a yée yan sh wududli.át.
 A yikt axéx'w.
 Wé yaakw yix' áwé wdudlisáa.
 Tle ch'u yeedádidéi ách dudlisáakw
 Yakkwalaséigákw á
 áa s wulsaayích yá yaakw yix'.
 Yan has kóox áwé daak at kawduwajél.
Kaa yaagú daak wuduwatán; k'idéin 350
 sh daaduné.
 Yándeí yaa sh nadusnein.

They didn't drift away that night
 while they slept.
 Each morning they would begin paddling again.
 Ohhhh!
 how long they would paddle.
 They didn't drink much water.
 But they had some inside animal stomachs, 310
 some water.
 How many days they had been going
 on the ocean.
 One man yelled out
 "Hey! That's a seagull there; it's drifting in
 front of us.
 There it is!
 Steer toward it!
 Set your bow on it."
 It was already nearly fall.
 Perhaps it was toward winter. 320
 The mountains were already dusted with snow.
 The head of the seagull was beginning to cut
 through the ocean.
 Here it was the tip of Mt. Edgecumbe.
 There was a little snow there.
 This was what they were calling a seagull.
 They really didn't want to call the mountain
 by its name.
 After they had recognized it,
 he said to them, "Steer the boat 330
 into the arm."
 Go!
 Push your paddles
 way down."
 My! they paddled fast.
 They forgot about their food
 and water.
 They paddled fast.
 When they reached behind the reefs
 where kelp grew 340
 they pulled some on board at the stern
 and at the bow.
 Then they lay down in the bottom of their canoe.
 They slept inside it.
 They rested inside the canoe.

Dushóoch.

K'idéin yan sh dusnéi,
Kaax'achgóok ku.aa wé té yát áwé uwagút; áx'
áwé akat'éix'.

Has du yoo kooneigi áwé

a yáa akatéix' wé té.

Ch'a yeisú áa yéi téeyin du ji.eeti.

(Á áyá aadéi gaxtookóox ch'a goox' sá.)

K'át yan sh dusnéi

aagáa áwé tsu yaakw yix aawa.aat; gunéi
yakw.uwakúx.

360

Daxéitt áwé yatán.

Yeisdéi yaa kukgahéinin; Kiks.atx'i has
nalgás'ch.

Kunáadei aa nalgás'ch

Geey Tleindéi

ka Daxéitdei,

ka yá héenax'w sáanidéi; a xoo aa

tle aanx áyú daxdzitee

yóo áa yéi kunateech yé; kaa at xaayi

a daa yóo akoo.atgi nuch yé.

370

Yóo yées shaawát

du shát

hú ku.aa wé dei wduwasháa.

Du kéilk'ich áwé uwasháa.

Tlax a yáanáx de galtishch

wé shaawát.

Ach áwé yées káa du jeet jiwduwatán.

Tlax sh tóodáx kuwdzihaa de.

Wé yanwát du shát ku.a ch'a yeisú du tóox
kaawagaa.

Yá du xándáx

380

daak uwakuxu aa

ch'a yeisú du tóox

kaawagaa.

Gáanx' áyú ganúkch gagaan yanax yei anaxixi.

Tlax k'át sh tóodáx akawdajeilí

du tundatáani aagáa áwé tsá neil ugootch.

Ayá tsu yá át aayi áwé

ch'a aadéi

héen du yadaanáx kaawadaayi yé

ch'a aan áwé át oolgeinch

390

Yoo Luklihashgi, X'aa lutú.

Today it's still called
"canoe rest"

because they rested there in this canoe.
When they got ashore they unloaded their boat.
They brought up their canoe; they cleaned
themselves up.

350

They were dressing up.

They bathed.

When they finished dressing up,
Kaax'achgóok went up to the face of a rock;
there he carved.

He carved on the rock

what had happened to them.

It was still there recently, the work of
his hands.

(This is where we will go sometime.)

When they were completely dressed
they went aboard again; they began paddling.
The boat headed toward Daxéit.

360

It was near fall; the Kiks.ádi would move.

Some would move to Kunáa

to Geey Tlein

and Daxéit

and to the small streams; some of the places
were villages

where people camped; they would put up
their food.

The young woman,

his wife,

had a husband.

370

His nephew was her husband.

This woman

was missing Kaax'achgóok so very much.

This is why she was placed with a young man.

She had already recovered.

However, he was still lingering on the mind
of that older wife of his.

The one who sailed

away from her

380

was still lingering

on her mind.

She would sit outside when the sun was setting.

When she had cried until no tears

Anax daak uwakúx wé yaakw.
 Yándeí yaa kqakúxún yéeyi áyú ax tlaakáak
 ax léelk'w Kaax'achgóok,
 daax'oondahéen áyú héendei anatsákch
 du axáayi; s'át'nax.aanáx
 a xukáa awooyishch.

A káx' áwé yan woos.áaych du axáayi.
 A áwé du shátch
 tle yaawatín.

Tlax k'idéin yan akooltéen aagáa áwé tsá
 wdihaan.

Neil uwagút.

"Ha! Tlagukwáanx'i xáa yú haadéi yaa nakúx."

Ldakát du daa.itnagóowu
 áyá de du shantú.

Aa yax kawdayáax áyú duwajée
 hú ku.a.

Ach áwé ch'a sh k'akalgedéin daayaduká.

Wáa nanéi sáwé áa yux aawagoot.

"Ha ch'a a yáx áwé
 yaakw haadé yaa nakúx."

Yées káax'w áwé át kaawa.át taashukaadéi;
 yan áyú uwaláa.

Tlax taashuká yayát' Daxéit.

Áyá áx aa yaawanák
 tle yú ixkéedei.

Shayadihéini aa áwé aadéi woo.aat.

K'idéin yan kadusnóok aagáa áwé tsá
 kei t'aawduwa.ix' yú ixkéede.

"Kaax'achgóo-oo-ook
 koowagáa-aa-aak."

Tle haadéi yaa nas.áx.

Tle yá aant is.áax áwé át kawduwa.át;
 x'óol' yáx at woonei.

Wé yanwáat du shát ku.aa wé tle tláakw áwé
 at sa.ée.

Tlax yáa

daakw aa at xá sá du tuwáa sagóo noojín
 á áwé as.ée

du xúx x'eis.

Wé yées aa du shát ku.a áwé

kadéix' áwé; du yáx' yéi woonei

wé du xúx tsú.

were left, she'd go inside.

It was while she was sitting there again
 as her tears

flowed down her face
 that she kept looking

at the tip of Yoo Luklihashgi X'aa.

The canoe came out of there.

When my mother's maternal uncle came toward shore,
 my grandfather Kaax'achgóok,

he would put his paddle in the ocean

four times; then he would pull it across the stern
 with his left hand.

He would rest his elbows over his paddle.

This is what his wife
 recognized.

When she was sure of what she saw she stood up.

She went inside.

"Well! The one long dead is coming."

All his mannerisms

were still on her mind.

But they thought

her mind had snapped.

That was why they kidded her.

After a while someone went out there.

"Hey, it's true,

a canoe is coming."

Young men ran down the tide flats; it was low tide.

The tide flat extended way out at Daxéit.

This was where the men stood

all the way down the river.

There were many who went there.

When they were sure, they yelled out the news
 from down the river.

"Kaax'achgóooooooooook

has returrrrrrned!"

They could hear the news coming up.

When the news reached the village people started
 to run down; they became like a whirlpool.

But his older wife quickly began to cook.

Whichever foods

he really used to like

was what she cooked

for her husband to eat.

400

410

420

390

400

410

420

Yindasháan áwé s kéen.
 Wáa sá kwshí yándeí s kaguxdayáa?
 Wáa sáyú tla_x yéi sh yáa wdiwútl gadusháat?
 Haa, kei ginnadutéen wé yaakw.
 Ch'a a yikt has kéen.
 Kaa eegayáakt
 gindutéé áwé aagáa wé tsá
 yei s uwa.át; a yíkdá_x daak at kandujél;
 yú x'at'aakx' áwé kei jiyawduwayék
 wé at doogú,
 wududlixwaji
 ka wé
 taan x'adaadzaayi.
 K'idéin yan at duxáa
 yan sh kalnéek
 has du yoo kooneigi, yan aklanéek
 áa kaa jikaawakaa,
 "Yóo x'wán
 kaa jixoox yala.át wé...
 kaa jixoox yéi yaa gaysané
 wé taan x'adaadzaayi.
 Wé at doogú."
 At áwé x'eiwatán du kéilk'.
 "Gunalchéesh á
 ax kéilk', gunalchéesh
 yá i tlaakáak
 du yáx yeeyashée.
 Gunalchéesh.
 Ha, woch yeeydzixán áyá.
 Ch'a yéi déi yan kuxdayaayi.
 Ch'a yéi déi ngatee.
 Wa.é tsú!
 Wa.é tsú!
 K'idéin x'wán dlinkwát latin
 wé ax kéilk'
 k'idéin. "
 Ldakát kaa jixoox ayakaawajél wé at dookx'ú.
 E'! toowú sagú yéi daaduné.
 Xaju tóox' ásgí yú de yan awsinéi.
 Sh tóox' yan awdzinéi de
 yá du tundatáani
 ka yá aadé yan kawdiyayi yé.
 Ayá kei akaawashée

430

440

450

460

470

But the young wife of his
 was shame-faced; it was on the face
 of her husband too.
 They sat with their heads down.
 They wondered, what was going to happen to them?
 Why was she so in a hurry to be married?
 Now they were pulling up the canoe.
 They just sat in the canoe.
 When it was brought
 up to the village that's when they finally
 got off the boat; they brought the things from
 inside the boat; they were piled up by
 the door, those skins
 that were tanned
 and the
 sea lion whiskers.
 When they had finished eating
 when he finished telling the story
 when he had finished telling
 of the things that had happened to them,
 he told the people,
 "Will you
 distribute these to the people this way?
 Hand the sea lion whiskers
 out to the people.
 The skins."
 He spoke with his sister's son.
 "Thank you, indeed,
 my nephew, thank you,
 you wiped the face
 of your mother's maternal uncle.
 Thank you.
 Surely, you care for each other.
 Let's just let it be.
 Let things remain just the way they are.
 You too!
 You too!
 Will you take good care
 of my sister's son,
 good care."
 He handed skins out to all the people.
 My! It made people happy.
 Hadn't he already made up his mind?

430

440

450

460

yá du x'asheeyi.
 Ahé yáadu á
 ax tlaakáak
 Kaax'achgóok,
 aadéi x'ayakáayi yé á
 aadéi x'ayakáayi yé!
 Ch'a á ku.aa yás
 tlél gaxyi.aax.
 Has du kunóogu de yan shuwjixín.
 Ach áyá
 tlél gaxyi.aax.

480

He had already made up his mind
 about his thoughts
 and what had happened to him.
 He started singing
 his song.

470

This is the one here
 my mother's maternal uncle
 Kaax'achgóok,
 the way he said it, indeed,
 the way he said it!
 But this is the only thing
 you won't hear.
 What they did is now ended.
 This is why
 you won't hear it.

480