

- kha wé axh wû Yaxhgûs',
 510 kha wé axh îsh Nêxh'w,
 kha wé axh tlâk'w Dàxhlâ,
 áwé ch'as xhat has wùxhùxh.
 Tléł xhwasakú tsu xhat wudushàiyí,
 tléł a dàt át xhwasakú.
 515 Ch'as yê xhat yawdudzikhà,
 "Yú church-x' áwé married-xh yì guxhsatí.
 Tlaxh x'êghà ásí yánde kghwajâkhw i khustiyí.
 K'adên áwé yì yatì, tléł kaxîl' dên yì utí."
 Tléł xhwasakú dà sáwé married yû duwasâkw.
 520 Tle kwshêwé tle ldakát axh nà.ádighâ kwshêwé tle has àwawû
 wé catalog kàxh,
 kha wé veil.

- Ch'a hú dê wé nakwnêt—
 Lingít xh'ênáxh yû xh'atángin wé nakwnêt,
 525 àdé ûsh gé awsikûwu yé,
 àdûch sá du î wlitíw?
 Tle yá axh yáxh yû xh'atángin.
 Tle hà ghaxhùxhch tle,
 wé catechism kàxh áwé hà î at latíw.
 530 Tle khúnáxh first of July,
 nás'k yawuxhìyí áwé,
 xhat wuduwxhùxh
 wé dáxhináxh dlèt [shâch,]
 Mrs. Murphy kha Mrs. Conrad.
 535 "I dà áwé yê shagaxhdu.û.
 Ha wâ sáwé dês?
 wé nakwnêtch khu.a de hà in kaník."
 Tle wé dlèt shâ
 axh dà yê s jìwanè
 540 tle wé church-de.
 Tle k'adên hà dàt yan nî wé nakwnêt
 áwé tle gânde [ayawtudi.át,]
 hé', shàwahík wé church.

- Á áwé
 545 wé axh îsh
 kha wé axh tlâk'w kha wé axh wû,
 kha wé axh chàn,
 has at daná áwé.
 Ha tlaxh dàt yáxh sáyú / tléł axh tuwâ ushgú yû
 550 xhatiní wé s at danàiyí.
 Hé',
 wé dlèt khâ àní áwé
 l'èxh xh'êtxh has ashuyàwatán kha wé Lingít àní.

and my father-in-law *Yaxhgûs'* (Billie Williams)
510 and my father *Nêxh'w* (Tom Williams)
and aunt *Dàxhlâ* (Anna),
they asked me to come see them.
I didn't even know that I was married,
I didn't know anything about it.
515 They just told me,
"You [and Steve] are to be married in church.
Your life will be set on a firm foundation.
You are doing well; you are not having problems."
I didn't know what they meant by "married."
520 Then they ordered all my [wedding] clothes
from the catalog,
as well as a veil.

Now that priest,
the priest spoke Tlingit;
525 I wonder how he knew it—
who taught him?
He spoke just as well as I do.
He would ask us to come over regularly
and taught us from the catechism.
530 Toward the very first part of July,
on the third of the month,
they asked me to come see them,
those two white [women],
Mrs. Murphy and Mrs. Conrad.
535 "They are going to dress you up," [I was told].
"Now what?" [I wondered.]
The priest explained it to us.
Then the white women
got me ready
540 for church.
After the priest had finished [praying] over us
[we left and went] outside;
my! the church was full.

At that time
545 my father
and my aunt and my father-in-law
and my mother-in-law
used to drink.
I really hated
550 to see them drink like that.
My!
in the white folks' village
and in the Indian village they put on dances.

- Tle shàwahík / wé Yayuwà Hít.
 555 Dlèt khâ dlèt shâ tin tle wùch xhùt [has wudi.át].
 Á áwé wé axh xhán à áx'—
 latin, ch'a yú nakwnêt yê hà yawsikhà,
 "Tle dàx'ùn yakyi xh'ánáxh tlél lítà àdé gaxhyishì,
 kha lîl dà sá yalik'ats'i át lîl áxh yishikh,"
 560 yû hà dàyahá.
 Á áwé yût'à Khènaljixw áwé yû dusâgun wé
 Taku Jack du yît,
 yât'à áwé Ishkhúxh,
 yât'à áwé L.atguda.in,
 565 yât'à áwé Khànêlk'i lîsh,
 yâdu hú wé
 axh xhúxh Khus'èxh,
 yâdu axh shátxh
 Xhàstin,
 570 tle yú ghîl'ák'w shakîde kwshêwé àwa.àt tle áx' tle wé—
 Á xá dlèt khâ áwé xhùkdahîn, / *malt beer* áwé yê adàné.
 Tle a îtxh kwshêwé wûsht has ayàwa.úw.
 Xhát khu.a áwé
 ch'a wé l'èxh áwé áwu xhát.
 575 Dlèt khâ shàwahík,
 ch'a yê khâ
 axh in daxh adagha'exh yé.
 Tléł àdé àxh unkhàgùdi yé.
 Tle gushé gùdé sá khùyèxh,
 580 kè wjixix wé axh xhúxh.
 Ákwshêwé wé t'ùch'inèt tle / xh'ètxh kè aghatiyi yís gíwé
 lítà [àxh awutì,]
 tle yât
 yá du jînt yàwaxix tle.¹⁸
 585 Ághâ wé nakwnêt yê xh'ayakhá,
 "Yê iyaxhwsakhàyin, 'Lîl lítàxh ishikh.'¹⁹
 Ch'a wa.êch áwé kakghixîl'
 i khustiyí.
 Wé i shát khu.a wé Elizabeth khu.a tlél tsu wâ sá utí."
 590 Has alighàs ásíwé wé lítà / ch'a yûk' át awushiyí.
 K'e s kàwashù dât yáxh sá,
 tle tsu wé axh tlák'w tsú tle ch'a khúxhde yû s awsini tle.
 Tléł axh tû ushgú has at danàiyí xá,
 a jiyit xhaghâxh wé s xhatiní,
 595 has kawushùwú.

18. Apparently she starts to say "*du jînt yàwaxix*" "it slipped and cut his hand," but she amends it to "*yât yàwaxix*" "it slipped and cut [him] here."

19. The decessive verb form is particularly instructive here. The implication is that by warning Steve, the priest gave him a chance to avoid problems. By ignoring this warning, Steve lost this opportunity. Thus, in a sense, the beneficial effect of the priest's warning was undone; hence, apparently, the use of the decessive here.

- 555 *Yayuwà Hít* was just full.¹⁷
 White men and white women were mingling there.
 Then my husband—
 you see, the priest had told us,
 “You must not touch a knife for four days;
 don’t touch any sharp-edged object,”
 560 he told us.
 Now that fellow whose name was *Khènahîxw* (Henry Taku),
 Taku Jack’s son,
 and *Ishkhúxh* (Johnny Taku)
 and *L.atguda.in* (Leo Taku)
 565 and *Khànêlk’i Ísh* (Edward Taku)
 and
 my husband *Khus’èxh* (Steve Williams)
 and my elder sister
Xhàstìn (Lucy),
 570 I guess they went to the top of a little cliff and [were drinking] there.
 Now a white man used to make home brew, malt beer.
 Apparently they bought a big supply of it.
 I myself
 was at the dance.
 575 It was packed with white people;
 everyone
 was dancing with me.
 I couldn’t leave.
 and I didn’t know where everyone had gone;
 580 my husband had run off.
 I guess it was in order to open a bottle
 that he took up a knife,
 and here
 it slipped and cut his hand.
 585 Then the priest said,
 “I told you beforehand, ‘Don’t touch a knife.’
 You yourself will bring trouble into
 your life.
 Your wife Elizabeth is all right, though.”
 590 It seems they have a rule against touching a knife right away.
 Well, they got really drunk,
 [even though] my aunt and the others slowed down drinking.
 I didn’t like it when they drank;
 it would make me cry when I would see them
 595 drunk.

17. *Yayuwà Hít* was the *Yanyèdí* clan house in Atlin.

- Tle tliyê yê s àwa.ù hás khu.a.
 Tle khi.âde áwé yan shuwjixhín / wé l'èxh,
 tle tayidé xhwàgùt,
 xhat wudixwétl, ách gíyú xhwatà.
 600 Ha gushé tlél xhwasakú gùdé sá has uyéxhi.²⁰
 Daxh khukàwashù.
- Tle àxh
 gwál ch'a k'át gíwé dàx'ùn â hà wuxhí
 wé àn.
 605 Tle yâdâxh áwé yú nánde / kè at kaxhwlinây.
 Á áwé tle yá yìdát tle yê has ayasâkw *Elizabeth Wedding Island*
 tle yû has ayasâkw,
 S'ík X'ât'i áwé yê yatì,
 tle àdé khuwtuwa.ù.
 610 Tle *all summer* áyú â yê xhat wùtì,
 tlél tsu tlêx' àndé yàxh xhwagùt,
 tle ch'u *July*-dâxh,
 ch'u tle kayàní ch'u tle kawdighât.
 Àghâ áwé tsá
 615 àxh hàndé yà s at kanajél,
 xhât xùk, dliy xùk,
 s'ík, dà sá,
 jánwu,
 ìdakát át wutusixúk áx',
 620 wé x'ât' ká,
 axh tuwâ sigû.
 Àxh áwé àndé s at yàwaxhâx'w,
 tle húch'i àyí [áwé tsá yàxh xhwàgùt.]
 Àghâ áwé tsá yèsú
 625 khùn ànt xhwà.át.
 Tle *all summer* â yê xhat wùtì.
- Yâx' áwé
 wé axh chàn wé du xhúxh tin has nakhúxhch²⁰
 tle yá *Atlin*-dé.
 630 X'ùn àdé has wuxhìyí sáwé hàt has ukhùxhch,

 tle tsu dzísk'w has awujàghí áwé
 tle wé axh xhúxh dè s du ìn yàxh gha.átch
 tle àdé has nakhúxhch.
 Tsu x'ùn àdé has wuxhìyí sáyá tsu hàt ukhùxhch tle yê.

 635 Xhát khu.a tle xhat wudutsâyi tlél axh tû ushgú.
 Yâx' hàt tù.ât áwé

20. This sounds like "yàxh has nakhúxhch" on tape; perhaps she started to say "yàxh has gha.átch" and amended this to "has nakhúxhch" in midspeech.

They stopped.
At dawn the dance ended
and I went to bed;
I was tired, so I went to sleep.
600 I had no idea where they had gone.
They were drunk.

After that
we must have spent at least four days there
in town.
605 From here I kept after them to take me up the lake.
So [we went to what] they now call Elizabeth Wedding Island—
that's what they call it;
it is *S'ik X'ât'i*, (Griffith Island);
we moved there.
610 All summer I was there;
I didn't go to town even once,
even after July,
[when] the leaves were falling.
Then
615 they brought [the food we had prepared] from there:
dried fish, dried meat,
bear and other things,
mountain goat,
everything that we dried there
620 on the island—
I liked it [there].
Then they ferried [what we had put up] to town in several trips,
and I went on the last [trip].
That time
625 I went to town with them.
I had spent all summer there.

At this time
my mother-in-law and her husband would go
to Atlin.
630 After they had spent so many days over there they would
come back,
and when they killed a moose
my husband would go with them on the next trip;
they would go there [to work on the moose].
After they had spent a number of nights there they would
come back.
635 When they would ask me to go along I didn't want to.
After we came here

á tsú axh xh'ayáxh ayawsinúk wé át.
 Hé', wé *Atlin-t* tùkhúxh,
 tle wé At Ch'ini Shàdé gíwé kè awu.àt,
 640 tle tawê hât kawduwajêl.
 Tlél yìdadi yáxh *game warden* khùstîyin.²¹
 Tle at dùgú tsú hât daxh wududli.át.

Á áwé
 ch'u yìdádídé a kâ dâk tuxhdatanji nìch
 645 tle wé axh chàh yê xhat yawsikhà,
 "Jâji ya.âk sák w nałxh'wâs'.
 Jâji ya.âk yê gaxhtusanî."
 A xhàwú xhâyú *it's thick, you know*,
 yê xhâyú kwdliyât' a xhàwú.
 650 "Tle wé / a káxh dułxh'was'gu át dât áxh,
 àghâ tsá nałxh'wâs'."
 Ch'a du xh'ayáxh áwé.
 Yê kwdagè áwé àxh kinde daghátch—
 ha wé a xhàwú áwé khúdáxh kusikàk.
 655 Gwâl dèxh yakyì xh'ânáxh gíyú
 a dât xha.áxh, xhałxh'wás'k yû.
 Kàxwâshgé yê yà kakùgê wé—
 àxh—a ch'âdu kha wé a xhàwú àxh yê yà nanìn.
 Wâ nanî sáwé yê xhat yawdudzikhà,
 660 "Hîn kàdé na.àxh
 wé a xhàwú ghadatl'âk'it."²²
 Ha ch'a has du xh'ayáxh.

A siyèkh áwé tsu a dât xhwà.áxh.
 Hàhá, wé hîn tle
 665 yá a xhàwú tle wdlisíts',
 wudlisíts' tle.
 Tlél *it's not bulky like*.
 Àghâ áwé tsá yèsú
 dà sáwé àxh yè nashxh'íl' tle.
 670 Tlél yìwuyât'i áwé tle yan xhwałixh'wás' tle wé
 a ch'âdu tsú tle àxh yê wùnì.
 "K'adên na.ûs'," yû xhat dàyakhá,
 k'adên xhwà.ûs'.
 Àghâ áwé tsá yèsú, "Kè katìxh',"
 675 yèsú kè kxhwàtìxh'.
 Yèsú kawtuwahán,
 du jiyì xhłashát,
 hûch áwé akahánt.

21. Following this she says "*tawê*," but since this does not fit with the rest of the utterance I take it to be a false start.

22. This line can be condensed to "*xhaghałt'âk'it*".

I had had enough of that, too.
When we went to Atlin
they went up onto *At Ch'ini Shà* ("Sawtooth Mountain")
640 and brought back mountain sheep.
There didn't use to be game wardens like there are now.
They brought back hides too.

Now
to this day I keep recalling [how]
645 my mother-in-law said to me,
"Remove the hair from a hide [so we can make] fine filling.
We'll make fine filling for the snowshoes."
[Moose] fur is thick, you know,
the fur is long.
650 "Set it up on the dehairing frame
and then take the fur off."
So [I did] just what she said to do.
It was falling off in big clumps—
the fur is extremely thick.
655 For the space of perhaps two days
I had it on the [dehairing frame], removing the fur like this.
Eventually there was getting to be quite a bit—
the epidermis and the hair was coming off.
After a time they said to me,
660 "put it in water
so the fur will get wet."
So [I did] just what they said.

The next day I put it back up [on the frame].
Oh, the water [had gotten into it];
665 the fur was sopping wet,
it was soaked.
It wasn't bulky like.
Then
what do you know, [the fur came off like] it was slipping off.
670 Before long I had finished dehairing it, and
the epidermis came off too.
"Wash it well," she told me,
so I washed it well.
Then [she said], "Wring it out,"
675 so I wrung it out.
Then we cut it into *babiche*:
I held it for her
and she cut it.

- Yan tusanî áwé tle gânx' yaxh jikaxhwsiyìkh
 680 ghasaxùgút.
 Kàxwâ saxûk.
 Saxûk áwé tle jikxhwàxhíł tle,
 jâji ya.âk yís áwé.
- Yâdâxh áwé tsu ghunayê wtuwa.át tsu wé Yat'âyî Hînde,
 685 de tsu wé íkhde niyâdé áwé.
 Tle àghâ
 tlél tsu axh ìn kadunìk,
if you're pregnant, you know,
 tlél tsu àdûch sá axh ìn kùnìk.
 690 Axh tlâk'w kha wé axh chànych kwshêwé
 yà xhat has nakhít.
I'm not the same, a tûx'
 tá axh kát ugùtch.
 Wâ nanî sáwé xhat xh'awduwawûs'—
 695 tle ch'u yìdádídé
 ch'ù yê xhat yatì, *you know,*
 ch'a yú khà xhùx' xh'awdatàn tsú
I'm really shy to say anything—
 "Wâ sáwé iyatì? Ch'u gí i dís nîgu i jì yê tíxhx'w?"
 700 Tlél xhwasakú dà sáwé yê s àwasâ.
 "Àá."
 Tle tsu â xhat xh'awduwanákh tle.
They thought I know what it is.
- Adaxh áwé dèshgi yú íkhde / èkh ana.át.
 705 Gwâl tsu tle tlèx' dís shunaxîx gíwé tsu xhat xh'awduwawûs'.
 "Tlél xhwasakú dà sáwé a káxh xhat xh'aywûs',"
 yû áwé s yaxhwsikhà.
They explain it to me àghâ tsá.
 Axh ìn khunâxh dàkh akàwaník.
 710 "Tlèk',
 tsu yìdát khutàndáxh tlèk',"
 yê yaxhwàkhà.
 Àxh hás áwé tle yà s anatíw hás khu.a wé dís.
- Tle tsu wé
 715 T'ùch' Yayá â yê hà wùtì,
 tle May yát áwé.
 Wâ sáyá
 axh chànych ch'a tlákw kè xhat xh'akanikji nìch.
 At dùgú áwé kkhwałaxwàch.
 720 Áwé yù xhaswúkhgu áwé tle yá
 khàyakût'i tle àxh kàwak'ùts wé
my slacks.
 Du xhánt xhwàgút wé axh chànych tle,

When we were done I strung it out on the ground outside
680 so it would dry.
Eventually it dried.
After it dried I coiled it up:
it was to be used for fine filling in snowshoes.

From here we left again to the Hot Springs
685 and then again down toward the lakeshore.
At that time
they hadn't even told me [what happens]
if you're pregnant, you know,
nobody had even told me.
690 My aunt and my mother-in-law were probably
beginning to suspect [that I was pregnant].
I wasn't the same, and besides
I kept getting sleepy.
One day they asked me—
695 to this very day
I'm the same way, you know,
[I don't like] to speak in front of people;
I'm really shy to say anything—
"What is happening to you? Are you still having your periods?"
700 I didn't know what they meant by that.
[I just said,] "Yes."
So they didn't ask me anything else.
They thought I knew what it was.

After that they went down toward the lake.
705 Perhaps one month later they asked me again.
"I don't know what you are asking me about,"
I told them.
Then they explained it to me;
they explained it to me.
710 "No,
not since this summer I haven't,"
I said.
From that they calculated how many months it was.

Again
715 we stayed at *T'ùch' Yayá* (side of *T'ùch'*)
in May.
For some reason
my mother-in-law was always repeating what I said.
I was going to tan a moose hide.
720 As I was scraping it
a button came off
my slacks.
So I went to my mother-in-law;

- át xhâwé nanúkch.
 725 "Wâ sáyá yà xhat nanìn,
 àt?" yû áwé dà yaxhakhá,
 "Tle ch'a ðakát axh nà.ádi áyá tle axh nâ yà kanaxát.
 K'e yât, ch'a yèsú...
 yîs át áyá yê yatì,
 730 tle yá khà yakût'i tle yât àxh kà wak'ùts.
 Àdé kkhwaḷakhâ, àxh hàt xhagútñi tsá
 tsu yè kkhwasawûkh," yû dà yaxhakhá.
 Xhachu tle yá—
 tle yá khà yakût'i ìtí ásiyá tsú dàk yà was'él'.
 735 Xhwàkhâ, tle wé khà yakût'i tsu át kaxhwḷikhâ.
 Has du xhâni hàt xhwajixí.
 "Tlaxh wâ yà xhat naṇídli sáyá
 ch'u tle yá khà yakût'i ìtí tle dàk xh'ayà was'él'."
 See, I don't know I was pregnant.
 740 At shùkh, ch'u tle at shùkhch jákhxh hú khu.a,²³
 tlél tsu axh ìt xh'áwutàn tle de ch'a hûch' áwé.

 De wâ nanî sáwé wé—
 wé Agnes du tlâ Sàtlèndu.ù yû áwé dusâgun.
 "K'e hàgú, yûde naxhtù.àt," yê xhat dà yaxhá.
 745 Du ìn áwé yà nxha.át, du ìtxh yà nxhagút.
 Yú gùch shakî áwé át tùkhîn,
 yûde át khutùtîs'.
 Ch'as yê xhat yawsikhâ, "Ghán,
 tlél àdé ghisikûwu yé,
 750 de nas'gadùshú dís áwé i kadísi.
 Tlél gí ysakú t'akwanêyi áwé i kâ yê yatì?"
 Jí', k'e ch'u tle
 gushé tsu yàwat'ayi hîn kha tsu si.ât'i hîn ûsh gé
 axh shanâ yaxh kawduwaxhích, tle yê áwé sh tuxhdinùk.
 755 "Ha wâ sáwé dês xhat gughwatî?" yû áwé axh tuwatì.
 Tle axh ìn akaník,
 "Gùshúkh dísxh isatìyí áwé
 tû kghinîkw,
 tuwdatàní wé t'akwanêyi.
 760 Ách áwé ch'a tlákw áxh ijkdudligêkh wé yadaḷi át kè ìtíjî,
 kha wé / khúdáxh ìswúkhgu.
 Tû aguxhshakhî, ch'a yûk' yê khukghwastî.
 Wé i xhúxh tin ch'a tlákw wùshxh ayayiḷtsinâ nìch,
 tliyê yê na.ù," tle yû xhat yawsikhâ.
 765 Ch'a du xh'ayáxh.
 The next thing
 I don't want to tell my husband, you know,
 kuxhḷidêx'i.

23. Pronounced "at shùkh jákhxh". Compare "shichdzísk'w," pronounced "shít dzísk'w" and "àdûch sâ," pronounced "àdût.sâ."

she was always sitting there.
 725 "What is happening to me,
 auntie?" I asked her,
 "All my clothing is getting too tight for me.
 For example, [I] just [got these slacks];
 they're new,
 730 and yet the button came off here.
 I'll sew it back on, and when I return [from doing that]
 I'll go back to scraping [the hide]," I told her.
 It turned out, in fact, that
 the buttonhole had ripped open as well.
 735 I mended it and sewed the button back on.
 I ran over to them.
 "[You see] how fat I'm getting:
 even the buttonhole ripped open."
 See, I didn't know I was pregnant.
 740 She laughed; she kept going into fits of laughter,
 [but] she said nothing more to me and that was the end of it.

Then one day
 Agnes' mother, whose name was *Sàtlèndu.ù* (Clara Johnson),
 said to me "Come here; let's go somewhere else."
 745 I went along with her, following her.
 We sat on top of the hill,
 looking off into the distance.
 She simply said to me, "Look here,
 you can't [be expected to] know this, [but]
 750 you are eight months along.
 Don't you know you are with child?"
 Gee,
 it was as if someone had taken first hot water and then cold water
 and dumped them over my head—that is how I felt.
 755 "Now what is to become of me?" I wondered.
 Then she told me,
 "When you are nine months along
 you will feel
 the first labor pains.²⁴
 760 That's why they are always telling you not to lift heavy things,
 and not to scrape skins too much.
 [The baby] will get irritated and be born right away.
 You and your husband are always rassling around;
 you must stop that," she told me.
 765 So [I did] what she told me to.
 The next thing
 I didn't want to tell my husband, you know;
 I was embarrassed.

24. Literally, "you'll feel it / when the baby 'thinks.'" The onset of labor is attributed to the baby's thoughts.

- De wâ nanî sáwé ghunayê tsu àwa.át khúxhde tle tsu wé *Atlin-de*,
 770 s'igèdí xhùdách hât àwa.át.
 Tle àghâ áwé tle yê hà yawdudzikhà,
 "Ch'a yìwân nay.á wé i ìk' tin,
 tlâkw," yû,
 "Lí hà dât yì tùstíkh," yû hà dàyadukhá.
 775 Has du ìn áwé yà ntù.át wé axh ìk' kha wé axh xhán à.
 Tle wé Xh'àk Tlèn kanaxh yan wutuwa.át,
 Chùkán Tlèn â hà uwaxhî.
 Àxh áwé tle Ghat.âyi yàxhx' tsu hà uwaxhî,
 dzísk'w áx' has àwajákh.
 780 Dêxh â hà uwaxhî,
 yâtxh áwé tle wé *O'Donnell* yawtuwadlâkh,
 tle àxh tle wé *car-ch* tle ànt hà wsixhút'.²⁵
- Tle a kát xhat sèwax'ákhw wé Sàtlèndu.ù àdé xhat shukajès' yé.
 Tle, jì! wé àn / â yê hà yatì.
 Ghèwú yê wtusinì.
 785 Hà ítánáxh áwé tsá hât has uwa.át hás.
 Adaxh xhât wududzighêw,
 à gawtudzi.î.
 Tsu ásíyá / xânà áwé
 ìdakát àwaxhêx'w de.
 790 Ch'a tàt yìn áwé kè xhat uwaxhích.
 "Dà sákws'hêgé xhwàxhâ, axh yû yaníkw," yû—
 wâ sákws'hêgé tlél wutùjàkh gí wé *Jackie*, wé *baby* axh káx'—
 tle ch'as yá axh kinâx' yû sh da.ùwú áwé
 tle *I feel better*.
 795 Tle shayèt áwé tle yû axh kinâ yan xhwasití,
 "Akh kâ ghanú," yû dà yaxhakhá.
 Tle ch'a àn *I was getting worse* tle.
 Tlél xhwasakú.
 Tle dê khì.á yê yà nanìn,
 800 tlél àdé nkhwàtàyì yé.
 Ha tlaxh wâ sákws'hêyúgé a kát xhat sèwax'ákhw
 wé àdé xhat dàyadukha yé khu.a.
- Ch'as has àwa.îx' wé s du yît.
 Tle ìt áwé tle yû yatì,
 805 yâdu uhân hà àyí, yût'à yì áwé has [yatì hás khu.a.]
 "Wâ sáwé yatì?" yú.á.
 "Du yú áhé yaníkw,
 ch'u tle tlél tsu tlêx' unatèjì áwé."
 Hé', ch'a yê ykuwât' shawduwa.át.

25. Here the car seems to be the agent rather than the instrument.

- One day they left again and headed back again to Atlin;
 770 they had gotten back from hunting beaver.
 Then they told us,
 "You and your brother go by yourselves,
 quickly.
 Don't worry about us," they told us.
 775 I went along with my brother and my husband.
 We walked across *Xh'àk Tlèn* (big ravine)
 and stayed the night at *Chùkán Tlèn* (great grassland).
 After that we camped on the shore of *Ghat.âyi* (Kuthai Lake);
 they killed a moose there.
 780 We spent two nights there,
 and from here we made it to O'Donnel [River],
 and a car took us to town from there.
- I forgot the advice *Sàtlèndu.ù* gave me.
 Gee, we were at the [*Yayuwà*] site.
 We set out a fishnet.
 785 After we had returned [the men] got back.
 Then we caught some fish in the net
 and cooked some.
 I guess it was in the evening again;
 everyone was already asleep.
 790 In the middle of the night I woke with a start.
 "What could it have been that I ate? My belly hurts," I said—
 it's a wonder we didn't kill Jackie, the baby I was carrying!—
 when [my husband] put his weight on me
 I felt better.²⁶
- 795 I laid a pillow on top of myself
 and said [to my husband], "Sit on me."
 But even though [it helped temporarily] I was getting worse.
 I didn't know [what was going on].
 Day was breaking and still
 800 I couldn't get to sleep.
 I must have totally forgotten
 what they had told me.
- They just called their son.
 The rooms were like this:
 805 here was ours, and they [stayed] in that one.
 "What's the matter with her?" he said.
 "Her belly hurts
 and she hasn't slept a wink," they said.
 My, in a jiffy everyone was out of bed.

26. This line is potentially confusing because it seems out of sequence. She felt like she had a bad bellyache and asked her husband to sit on her, so as to relieve the pain. She didn't realize this might be harmful to the baby.

- 810 Axx tlâ áwé kha axh tlâk'w,
 axh shátxh Xhàstìn,
 axh îsh,
 wé axh wû,
 Sàtlèndu.ù, Tàkwk'wát'i.
 815 Tlél tsu yê ykawuyât'i áwé
 tle wé s'ísà hît gânx' dàxh wuduwatì.

- Tlél tsu tlêx' xhwasakú a dàt át wé at daná.
 A yû—
 a xhù à wé shâ, yá t'akwanêyi yê sh wudunùgú tle
 820 gúx'à tle yâxh kadusdà,
 tle *hot water* tín, shûgà tín,
 tle has ùdanâyich.
 Tle tlél yìkuwát'xh yê khustìch,
 yû áwé has akanîk.
 825 Ákwshêwé axh xh'ès yê à wdudzini.
 Ch'a ghéghà, "Tlêk'," yû xh'ayaxhakhá.
 "Ha i idé guxhdashî," ch'u tle
 ch'a khà xh'ayáxh áwé dê xhwdinâ.
 Ágíyú ch'u tle *it make me worse*,
 830 *that's what I figure, anyway*.
 Tle yú *hospital*-dé—
 tle axh îsh de tûxh yê khunatîn—
 dà sáwé tsú *car* axh ìghâ hât uwakhúxh,
 tle a kàdé xhat wuduwashât tlâkw.

- 835 Tlél tsu yìwuyât'i áwé khuwdziti,
doctor jidé áwé khuwdziti yú axh yîtk',
 kha wé *nurse*.
 De *I feel better*.
 A siyèkh áwé
 840 axh jît wududzinúk.
 Hé', wé du kîlk'u hás tle yê áwé has khîn.
 Jinkàt kha tlêx' â xhat uwaxhî wé *hospital* du ìn,
 áwé yìdát
 ch'a yèsú yât wudu.ùwú tle
 845 "Àxh nagú," yû khuyanduskhêch.
 Àghâ khu.a tlél yê utîyin.

- Nèlt xhagût du ìn àghâ áwé
 wé axh wû yê yàwakhà,
 "Khut yawtù.ùwu sà áwé
 850 wé axh húnxhu sàyí,
 Jigê kha Xûts,
 dlèt khâ xh'ênáxh tsú ch'u shugu Jackie yû naxhtùsâkw," tle yû.

810 My mother and my aunt,
 my elder sister *Khàstìn* (Lucy),
 my father,
 my father-in-law,
Sàtlèndu.ù (Clara Johnson), and *Tàkwk'wát'i* (Frank Williams).
 815 Before long
 they had set up the tent outside.

I didn't know anything at all about drinking.
 Now
 when some women went into labor,
 820 they would fill a glass up to here [with whiskey]
 [and mix it] with hot water and sugar
 and [the women] would drink it.
 [If they do that], it doesn't take long for [the child] to be born,
 they say.
 825 That must have been what they fixed for me to drink.
 I tried to refuse, but in vain;
 [they said,] "It will help you,"
 and so I [gave up and] drank it like they told me to.
 I guess that just made me worse;
 830 that's what I figure, anyway.
 Then [they decided to get me] to the hospital—
 my father was getting pretty anxious—
 Before you know it, a car came to get me
 and they quickly got me into it.

835 Before long he was born;
 my son was delivered by a doctor
 and a nurse.²⁷
 I felt better now.
 The next day
 840 they gave him to me.
 His grandparents were sitting there.
 I stayed in the hospital with him for eleven days;
 nowadays
 as soon as they have their babies
 845 they tell them to leave.
 At that time it was not like that.

When I came home with him
 my father-in-law said,
 "[Let us give him] a name that we had left in disuse,
 850 my older brother [Taku Jack]'s name,
Jigê, and *Xûts*;
 and let us give him the same English name as well: Jackie," he said.

27. More literally, "was born into the hands of."

"Gùsú du àt?
Du àtch du yâ ghasà,
Àntsíxht."

855 Du ìghâ wùgùt, hàt uwagút.
A húch áwé a yâ àwasâ
Jigê kha Xùts,
Jackie.

860 Adaxh áwé yèsú
â yê hà wùtì,
ch'a yèsú tlél tlêx' sándexh unastijí áwé yàxh wutuwa.át yâdàxh,
wé *Carcross*-dé.
Tle wé Awêxh kha Yaduṭtín tsú
wé sgûnde tle axh ìn yàxh has wù.àt,
865 tle áx' has jiwтуwanákh.
Tle wé Shghagwè
wé gánti yàkw yìghâ / x'ùn sákwshêwé â hà uwaxhî.
Yât khu.a tsá a yíxh wutuwa.àt.

870 Tle ch'a tlêxh / axh tuwâ wsigû wé hîn yík,
tlêkhâ tâkw wanyâx' áwé â yê xhat wùtì.
Ha ch'ú áx' áwé axh yátx'i yê yakàwagê.
Ách áwé
tle áxh xhat tùwadà wé hîn yík.
Tle tlél axh tû ushgú
875 tsu yâx' hàt wutu.àdí.
Áwé axh xhúxh du wuwttú wunìguch áwé àxh hàndé hà wligàs'.

Ách áwé yâx' yê xhat wùtì.
Ch'ú tle tùghâ xhànùk wé T'akhú yík.
Wé axh xhán à yú *mine*-x' yê jinê nich,
880 xhát khu.a wé—
wé axh tlâk'w has du xhán kha wé axh chàn.
Has du îxh xhadashì,
tsu hêt'à, tsu hêt'à / has du xhùt naxhashíxch yû.
Wé axh yátx'i khu.a yánde has kùxha.áxhwch
885 hînt à usgîtgghà.

Wâ sá i tûch kijín tâkw áwé yà yanaxíx wé *mine*,
tlél tsu tlêx' xhwasatín.
Tle wé axh shátxh Xhàstìn du xhúxh tin
890 hàt has ât,
kha *Henry*,
àghâ áwé tsá / xhat kawdudlitsây.
Àghâ áwé axh tlâk'w yê yàwakhà,
"Xhàstìn,
895 wêdu i kîk' wé *Elizabeth*,

"Where is his aunt?
 Let his aunt bestow the name on him,
 [his aunt] *Àntsíxht* (Mary Anderson)."

855 They went to get her and she came.
 She is the one that bestowed on him [the names]
Jigê and *Xûts*,
 Jackie.

After that
 860 we stayed there,
 before the week was up we left to go from here
 to Carcross.
Awêxh (Billie Williams) and *Yaduktín* (Jessie)
 went with me [in order to attend] school there,
 865 and we left them there.
 Then in Skagway
 we waited many days for a ferry.
 Finally we boarded it.

I would have liked [to stay] on the [Taku] River for good;
 870 I was there for more than twenty years.
 My children grew up right there.
 So
 I got used to [living on] the river.
 I didn't want
 875 for us to come back here.
 Because my husband developed a chest ailment we moved here
 from there;
 that it how I came to live here.
 I was comfortable on the Taku.
 My husband used to work at the mine,
 880 and I
 [stayed] with my aunt and my mother-in-law;
 I would help them;
 I would run from one to the other.
 As for my children, I [made halters and] tethered them
 885 for fear that one of them would fall in the water.

What do you think about this: for five years [while] the mine
 was running
 I didn't see [the town] once.
 When my older sister *Xhàstín* (Lucy Jack) and her husband
 890 came here,
 and Henry,
 they asked me to come along.
 Then my aunt said,
 "*Xhàstín*,
 895 there is your sister Elizabeth;

- xh'anawûs' wâ sá kayaxát wé àn.
 Gwáŋ ch'u tle shawatshàn gíwé yê utí.
 Tlél tsu tlêx' àdé at kùnanâch,
 de kijín tâkw áyá àghâ â yê hà yatìyi yé.
 900 Ch'u yú diyânaxh.á wé dlèt shâ xhánde tsú tlél àdé [at
 kùnghànâyi yé].
 Ch'u tle ch'as wâ sákwshé yatì,
 ch'u tle ch'a du ya.âk áwé yût,
 wé du yátx'i tín.
 905 Tle tsu axh î gíyú kawunâk.
- Wâ nghanìn sáwé gán xàsh áwé axh tuwâ sigû.
 Dìtlêx'w,
 yât'át yáxh áwé kwðitlâ wé às.
 Tle yânaxh.â yan uxhahànch, yânaxh.á wé hú.
 910 Wâ nanî sáwé...
 Tlél yìdadi yáxh utí wé xáshà,
 hîn a tûde kaduŋxês', gas-ch áwé yà kanaŋjìxw.
 Hàw, dàkhw à yís sá kwshé wé hîn—
 ch'u tle yû khûk yáxh kayaxát—
 915 a tûde yù kdudzixêk kha dlèt.
 Hé', á áwé axh tuwâ kwlîtís'shán.
 Adaxh áwé tle wé axh îsh
 tle nèl has akawujèlí áwé
 tle a kígi áwé
 920 tlêx' xát'à kâ yaxh yadutàn.
 Áwé wé nèl has ayakghajélín
 tle yê áwé has aklaxhut'di nìch,
 wûshdâxh has aklax'û.
 Áwé *kindle* yís yû / *I like it*.
 925 Áwé â yan uhànch axh îsh,
 nèldé xhat yanasnákhch.
- De hûch' áwé xhwsikuwu át.
 Yèsú àdé s du ìn xhwà.àt wé axh shátxh.
 Hé', khâx'w,
 930 kha wé shâ.
 Tle hûch', *no more*, tsu hàdé xhwagùdí,
 tlél axh tû ushgú.
 Tle gíyú / at gutûxh xhat tùwadà.
 Tle khutàn yìn áwé tle wé—
 935 tle wé dlèt khâ ànínáxh yan khutù.ûwch tle.
 Hà shaká áwé â yê s yatì
 wé dlèt khâ àní kha wé *custom office*.

ask her what the town looks like.
 She acts like an old lady.²⁸
 She hasn't asked to go there once
 in the five years we have been there.
 900 She doesn't even ask to go across to where the white women
 live.
 I don't know what's wrong with her;
 she's always over there
 with her children.²⁹
 905 I guess I was just used to it.

 Sometimes I liked to cut wood.
 They were big in girth,
 [some of] the trees were as big around as this.
 I would stand on one side and [my husband] on the other.
 910 One day [I saw the sawmill].
 The saw was not like [the ones we have] today:
 they poured water inside and it ran on gas.
 Now what on earth was the water for?—³⁰
 there was a square [hopper]
 915 that they poured [water] and snow into.
 My, I was fascinated by it.
 And then when my father
 and the others brought home [blocks of wood],
 half [a block]
 920 took up a whole sled.
 When they brought them inside
 they would split them with axes
 or split them with wedges.
 I wished I had it for kindling.
 925 My father would stand there
 and tell me to go home.

 That's all I know [about that].
 I went with my older sister.
 My goodness, men
 930 and women...
 [After that] I didn't come over here any more;
 I didn't want to.
 I must have gotten used to [living in] the woods.
 In the middle of summer
 935 we would move in alongside the white people's village.
 They lived above us,
 the white people's village and the customs office.

28. Literally, "Perhaps she's just an old lady."

29. Literally, "her place [is] over there / with her children."

30. Apparently, the water and snow were used to cool off the engine.

There was no reason for me to go there;
a store also stood there, and
940 there was no reason for me to go there, either.
Taking care of my children was the only thing
worthwhile for me to do.

Sometimes we would go to Juneau;
after two nights there [we would come] back here.
That was my holiday, those two days.
945 After that
at the very end of October
my husband would quit working [at the mine]
and [we would go] to our trapping ground.
It was a long way, about forty-five miles, I guess, they reckon
950 [the distance] from the Tulsequah to our trapping ground.
Then we would stay there.
In March
we would get ready [to go] to the Tulsequah.
On our way there we would go to Juneau.
955 Sometimes we would stay there one week.
From here [we would go] back,
and [my husband] would go back to his job.
I [would stay behind] to look after the children and the dogs.

Now
960 [young people come] here from Atlin,
[and carry on] without their husbands here.
There are many dance halls here in this town [of Whitehorse],
and the young women and young men [carry on]—
who knows where their husbands are.
965 Eventually they separate—
there are so many of them that have separated—
their poor children!
[My elders] held me back from such a fate.
I was not perturbed by anything.
970 When my father-in-law told stories I would sit down,
listen to his words and watch his face.
That is why I know what he used to tell me about.
My father-in-law used to tell me as much;
“It seems like you will know the stories,” he used to tell me.

975 Well, that’s all.

I’ve done all the talking.



Back row left to right: *Khàjìstí* Maggie Jack, *Lkhùxhì* or *Xh'adèkna.àt* Mary Jack, *Nats'ál* Telegraph Jack, *Shànkhuýís* Dick Johnson. Front: *Khâyádzi* Felix Jack, *Khìdudâ* Willie Jack. Photo from Marilyn Williams' personal collection.



Wèhá Jimmie Fox and *Khinxh.ashì* Anna Jack in Juneau. Photo from Elizabeth Nyman's personal collection.