cahkâpêš kâ-kohcipalihikot mistamêsa

cahkâpêš manâ omisâ wîci-tašîhkêmêw ê-nîšicik.

'ko manâ mâka, "awênihkânak aniki anta kâ-sâsâkišikonêcik mâna namêsihk išinâkosiwak," manâ itêw omisa.

"namêsak aniki kâ-mišikiticik. 'kâwina pahkopê, ka-kohcipalihikwak," manâ itâkaniwan ..., itik' ômisa.

môl' isa mâka tâpwêhtawêw omisa, ot... otakaskwa kapastawêpinêw.

êko mâka niyâtahwât aniy' otakaskwa, kî-kohcipalihikow anihi namêsa.

nisto-tipiskâw mâka kî-watêmikow anihi namês' anta nipîhk. ôma manâ mâka itêlihtam ant' ê-watêmikot atâmihk ê-papâmâtakân'ci: "mân'si êkâ kâ-wî-kapastawê...² kêkwân nimis 'ci-kî-kohcipalihtwânispan' ".

êko manâ mâka, ispîy anima kâ-itên'tahk, omaskisin kî-kohci..., kî-kapastawêham an' êsa ..., iskwêw. êko mâka kâ-kohcipalihtwât ana namês, ê'kot' âni kâ-ohci-nawatinahk ana ..., animêniw maskisiniliw antê pîhci watânîhk anihi ôw..., namêsa.

ispî mâk' ânima ..., êko manâ mâka kâ-côhcôhkipit..., kâ-côhcôskipitahk³ anta ohci pâhkwâšihk ê-kiskêl'tamin'ci omisa, 'ko mâkâ, kâ-kwâsipitâl'ci anihi namêsa.

- 3 'ko mâkâ, ispî nêtawêl'tahk anihi omisa 'ciy-otinikot, kî-mâciswêw anihi namêsa an' êskwêw, watâlîhk ê-n'taw'šwât ošîma.
 - "'kat, 'kat, nimis; 'kâwina mâcišon," an' êtêw.

êko manâ mâka, misiwê mâk' anima namês kâ-išinâkwaniliki ê-kohcipalihtwât, kâhkâpisit kâ-išinâkosil'ci namês ê'kwân' ê-'šinâkosit misiwê 'l' it'⁴ cahkâpêš.

êko mâkâ, "'kâwina mâcišon, nimis. pêhkâc piko," itêw.

ispî mâka manâ, kâ-'škw'-ânim'-âyitôtahk, êko kâ-kâškahokot anihiy omisa. ot... osto... otônihk manâ mâka anta k'-îškwâtahok'w apišîš, êkâ oti..., ê'kwâni mâka wêhci-opîwâwitonâniwahk anta mitônihk, anim' ê-kî-iškwâtahokot.

4 'ko mâkâ, ispîy anima, "awênihkân 'ša n'ka-...⁵ n'kî-mâtâhâw nimis," manâ itêw omisa.

ispî mâk' kâ-mâtâhât anihi 'wê'hkâna,6 "pîsim ana," man' itikow.

"'kâwina 'pâmêliht' ânima. môna ta-wâpan," manâ ytikow.

Chahkabesh is swallowed by the giant fish

Chahkabesh lived together with his older sister, the two of them.

So then he said to his sister, "Who are those ones there who keep breaking surface with the dorsal fin, they look like fish?"

Excerpt from "âtalôhkâna nêsta tipâcimôwina / Cree Legends

and Narratives from the West Coast of James Bay" (1995)

"They are big fish. Don't go into the water, - they'll swallow you," he was told ..., his big sister said to him.

But of course he didn't believe his older sister; he threw his ... his arrow into the water.

Then he went after that arrow of his in the water and was swallowed by the fish.

For three nights that fish had him in his belly there in the water. And at this point he thought as he was held in the belly there of the fish swimming down below, "I wonder why my sister didn't throw something so he could have swallowed it."

So then, when he thought that, that woman swa..., threw her moccasin in the water. And then when that fish swallowed it, on the spot he grabbed that ..., that shoe there inside the belly of that ..., the fish.

At that point ..., so then he widened it ..., when his older sister knew that he [the fish] nibbled at it in the shallows, then she p..., dragged that fish ashore.

So then, when he wanted that older sister of his to take him, that woman cut the fish, searching with the knife in his belly for her little brother.

"Careful, careful, Big Sister; don't cut me," he said to her.

Now then, since a fish swallows all kinds of things, he looked as if he were discoloured, that's what Chahkabesh looked like all over, he said.

So then, "Don't cut me, Big Sister. Just go slowly," he said to her.

When then she had finished doing that, his sister scraped him off. But she left a little unscraped on his ..., his h ..., his mouth, not that is ..., and that is why there are whiskers around the mouth, because she left it unscraped.

So then, at that point, he said to his older sister, "I'll ..., I saw tracks of somebody there, you know, Big Sister."

But when he had seen the tracks of that person, she said to him, "It's the sun. Don't bother with that. It won't dawn," she said to him.

ISAIAH SUTHERLAND

'ko mâk' êspîy animêliw môna tâpwêhtawêw 'misa; kî-tâpakwêw anihi, tâpiskôc '-tâpikwât awiyâšîš' kî-tôtam.

pîsim wêcik' ânih'.

'ko manâ mâka ispî kâ-'tôwi-pêhtât' an' êskwêw 'ci-wâpan'nik, "tân' ihki wêhci-'kâ-wâpahk?" 'tik'⁸ ômisa.

"šá! n'kî-tâpakwâhtay 'sa awênihkân kâ-kî-mâtâhak ê-pasatahahk."

"manâ k'-îtitihtay 'kâ 'ci-tâpak'wat¹⁰ pîsim oš' âna k'-îtitin mâk' oš' âna 'kwâni wêhci-'kâ-wâpahk."

misiwê manâ mâk' âwiyâšîša antê k'-îšiwilêw antê 'ci-paskamân'ci; môna mâka kî-tôtam. ispî mâka, kây..., k'-âyât..., kâ-kînikisit an' âpikošîš, êwakwâna kâ-paskamât anihi pîsimwa kâ-ohci-wâstêpalik.

'kwâni mâka ê-cahkâsikêt pîsim mîna.

But at that point he didn't believe his older sister; he snared him, he did it as when he snared an animal.

Excerpt from "âtalôhkâna nêsta tipâcimôwina / Cree Legends

and Narratives from the West Coast of James Bay" (1995)

It was obviously the sun.

So then, when that woman got tired of waiting for it to dawn, [she] his older sister said to him, "What's the reason it's not dawning?"

"Oh my! I had snared someone whose worn-down trail I saw."

"Didn't I tell you not to set a snare for the sun and I said it to you. That's why it's not dawning."

Then he sent every animal there to gnaw; but he couldn't do it. But then th..., the ..., that sharply pointed mouse, that's the one who gnawed that sun free, so that all of a sudden the light came.

And then the sun began to shine again.