

The young man who turned into a snake

Hoktvlē hvmket em osuswv este-mvnette orēn ocēt likvtēs, mahokvnts.
hoktalí: hámkit im- osósua isti-manítti olí:n ó:ci:t leykatí:s má:ho:kánts
An old lady once lived with her young grandson, they used to say.

Mont omvtētan fayetvn vpēhoyen, vyetvn maken...
mónt o:matí:ta:n fa:yítan apí:ho:yín ayítan ma:kín
Some people were going hunting and he wanted to go...

Mometskē tis os, epuset kihcen,
mo:mícki: -teys ó:s ipósit kéyhcin
You may go, his grandmother said,

este hvmken 'tepahket vhojvtēs.
ísti hámkin 'tipáhkit aho:yatí:s
and after he joined another man, they went.

[new paragraph]

Mont welaket vhojat, welaket hvpo hayvntut...
mónt wila:kít aho:yâ:t wila:kít hapó: ha:yántot
And as they went, they made camp along the way...

Vhoyēpet hopvyēn erorhoyen, ehvpo hayaken fayakat welaket omaten...
ahoyí:pit hopáyí:n ilo:hō:yin ihapó: ha:yâ:kin fá:ya:kâ:t wila:kít o:mâ:tin
They went far and arrived at a place where they made camp and went hunting...

Mv este-mvnettāt fayāt arvtētāt vlaket okat:
ma isti-maníttā:t fa:yâ:t a:latí:ta:t 'lalâ:kit o:kâ:t
The young man who'd been out hunting returned, saying:

Nake echustaket owv vfopken mv tāt hervkēt kakis, maket, mv 'tepvkē welakan yem onayen...
nâ:ki iccostá:kit ó:wa afó:pkín ma tã:it hiłáki:t kâ:keys ma:kít ma 'tipakí: wila:kâ:n yímona:yín
There are some good-looking eggs sitting beside the water...

Mv hvmkat okatet,
ma hámka:t o:kâ:tit
The other hunter said,

Kos! Celahyēskos.
kós ciláhyí:skó:s
No! One must not touch them.

Nake herekis omēs, kicet, em vsēhvtēs.
nâ:ki hiíkeys o:mí:s keycít im- ási:hatí:s
It may be something bad, he said, and forbade him.

[new paragraph]

Momen hvtvm ayat, aret rvlaket omat,
mo:mín hatâm â:ya:t a:lít 'lalâ:kit o:mâ:t
Then again he went, and on returning, told him,

Hvtvm rvrot mv hervkēt 'tokeceskvn vtēhken hecit omis maket hvtvm yem onayen...
hatâm lalót ma hiłáki:t 'tokicískan atí:hkin hí:ceyt o:méys ma:kít hatâm yímona:yín
This time I saw some good fish in a stump...

Mvo nake herekis omēs.
maó nâ:ki hiíkeys o:mí:s
That too may be something bad.

Celahyēskos, kicet em vsēhē monket omen welakvtēs.
ciláhyí:skó:s keycít im- ási:hí: mōnkit o:mín wila:katí:s
Do not touch them, [the other hunter] said, still forbidding him.

Mv nake hēcē makat celayekatēs.
ma nâ:ki hi:cí: ma:kâ:t cilá:yiká:ti:s
He did not touch what he had seen and described.

[new paragraph]

Mon welaket omvtētan, mvn nake ocakan hecēpet vrēpet emonkvtēs.
mó:n wila:kít ô:mati:ta:n mán nâ:ki o:câ:ka:n hici:pít ali:pít imōnkati:s
And as they went about, he kept looking at those things he had seen.

Mont mv nake pvpetvn eyacētātēs.
mónt ma nâ:ki papítan iyá:ci:tá:ti:s
And he wanted to eat them.

Mont omis mv hvmkat em vsēhat omēcicēn celayekot.
mónt o:mēys ma hámka:t im- ási:hâ:t omi:céyci:n cilá:yikot
Yet because of the other's warning, he did not touch them.

Vrusē hayet, Estomēt ont on omat pahpin hoyvnekvs komvtēs.
alósi: ha:yít istó:mi:t ōnt ó:n o:mâ:t páhpeyn hoyánikas ko:matí:s
He was all right for a while until he thought, I'm going to eat it and see how it is.

Mont mv hvmkat 'monayesekot mv nake echustake hvmken esehpet eresvtehpēt, hvmken pvpēpvtēs, hvmkat kerrekon.
mónt ma hámka:t monā:nyisikot ma nâ:ki iccostá:ki hámkin isíhpit ílisatíhpit hámkin papi:patí:s hámka:t kííiko:n
So without telling the other [hunter], he took one egg, brought it back, and ate it without the other knowing.

[new paragraph]

Mon pvpēhpof, em onayvtēs.
mó:n papíhpo:f imóna:yatí:s
After he ate it, he told him.

Mon mv hvmkat okat:
mó:n ma hámka:t o:kâ:t
Then the other [hunter] said:

Nake herekis omēton okvyvankan papet ontskes kicet omis pvpēpekv aren takkaket omvtētan,
nâ:ki hííkeys o:mí:ton ō:ⁿkayankâ:n pâ:pit ónckis keycít o:mēys papi:pika a:íín takkâ:kit ô:mati:ta:n
I told you it may be bad but you've eaten it, and since he had already eaten it, they just sat around,

yomuckētt omen wakhokvtēs.
yomóckí:tt o:mín wákho:katí:s
and as it was dark, they went to bed.

[new paragraph]

Mon nochoyēpvtētan, vhonecan, naket nak maḡē 'sem mont vhonecvtēs.
mó:n nochoyí:pati:ta:n ahóni:câ:n nâ:kit nâ:k má:ⁿki: sim- mônt ahóni:catí:s
After they fell asleep, one awoke thinking he was hearing something.

Mont vhonecēt takwakkof, kotetēcket takwakkēt omacoken pohet...
mónt ahonici:t takwâ:kko:f kotítí:ⁿckit takwâ:kkit o:macókin pô:hit
As he lay there awake he heard the other lying there making squeaky sounds...

Mv hvmkat takwakken mv nak makē okē wakkat okatet, Alihket cvhecvs,
ma hámka:t takwâ:kkin ma nâ:k ma:kí: o:kí: wâ:kka:t o:kâ:tit a:léyhkit cahícas
The one lying there making the noises said, Get up and look at me,

naket cvstomet on omat, kicet omen,
nâ:kit castô:mit ó:n o:mâ:t keycít o:mín
see what is happening to me, he said,

alihket oh-ahyet hēcan, entis nvrkvēkat cettot hocackētt takwakket okēpen hēcvtēs.
a:léyhkit ohháhyit hi:câ:n ínteys nałkatî:ka:t cíttot hoca:ckî:tt takwâ:kkit oki:pín hi:catí:s
and the other one got up and went to see, and he saw that he had already become a snake up to his stomach.

[new paragraph]

Mohmet okat,
móhmit o:kâ:t
Then he said,

Mvn nake momis omēton okvyvnekv,
mán nâ:ki mô:meys o:mí:ton o:kayánkika
I tried to tell you that it might be bad,

nake tayeko mahēt ecohcakket omes cē, kicvtēs.
nâ:ki tá:yiko: má:hi:t icohcâ:kkit o:mís cí: keycatí:s
and now something really bad has caught up with you, he said.

Momen okat, Momis hoyvnēpet omētis os, maket takwakken nocēpvtēs.
mo:mín o:kâ:t mô:meys hoyanî:pit o:mí:teys ó:s ma:kít takwâ:kkin noci:patí:s
It has come to pass, [the snake-man] lay on the floor while [the other hunter] went to sleep.

[new paragraph]

Momen hvyatkan yi em ena tat omyłkv̄t cettot hakep[ē] pokēpen:
mo:mín haya:tkâ:n yēy im- iná: -ta:t omālⁿkat cíttot ha:kípí: po:kí:pin
And in the morning his whole body had turned into a snake:

ekv tylkuset vhosken hvyatkv̄tēs.
iká tálⁿkosit ahô:skin haya:tkatí:s
only his head was still [human] when morning came.

Mont omis opunayusē monkvētēs.
mónt o:mēys opóna:yosí: mōnkati:s
He could still talk a little, though.

Mont okatet, mv 'tepakvtēn oket,
mónt o:kâ:tit ma 'tipâ:kati:n o:kít
And he told his partner,

Heyv hiyomē nake cvmomat cvwihket yefulkepetskvrēs.
hiyá heyyó:mi: nâ:ki camô:ma:t cawéyhkit 'yifolkipíckáli:s
Since this thing has happened to me, you must leave me and go back.

Momis hvte vyeko monket cayvpahyet, ēkvnv enrakkē 'metetayen, poloksēn escvfulotiket, ētusēn vyepetskvrēs.
mô:meys hatí ayíko: mōnkit ca:yapáhyit i:kaná in- łakkí: 'mititâ:yin polóksi:n iscafolotēykit í:tosi:n ayípíckáli:s
But before going, take me to a roomy spot, take me around in a circle, and move to another area.

Momen vm ehaketsken uewvn akcēyehpin vyepvccvs.
mo:mín amihâ:kíckin óywan akci:yíhpeyn ayípáccas
And wait for me until I go into the water, then leave.

Momis mv momē cvmomēcetskat vyeko monket roretskvrēs.
mô:meys ma mó:mi: camó:mi:cícka:t ayíko: mōnkit lólíckáli:s
But before you leave, you must come back.

Estohakēs? kontsken omat, mv ēkvnv ercvwiketskat erorvccvs, kicvtēs.
istóha:kí:s kónckin o:mâ:t ma i:kaná itcawēykícka:t itóláccas keycatí:s
If you want to know how I am, you can come to the place where you left me, he said.

[new paragraph]

Mohmen mvn okekv, ena omýlkvť cetto-capko hakē pokehpen,
móhmin mán o:kiká iná: omăł^hkat citto-cá:pko há:ki: po:kíhpin
Then the unavoidable happened as his whole body became a long snake,

momusen ēyvpahyet 'sayet eto-vlkat 'sayet,
mô:mosin i:yapáhyit sa:yâ:t ito-álka:t sa:yít
and then [the other] took him into the woods,

mvn kicet okekv, 'sayet, eresfulotiket es poloksicat,
mán kêycit o:kiká sa:yít itisfolotēykit is- polókseycâ:t
as he had been instructed, and where he dragged him around in a circle

ēkvnv lvpvtkēt omet, naket momē ocvrē tokot eto-vlkēt omvtētāt,
i:kaná lapátki:t ô:mit nâ:kit mó:mi: ó:cáli: tó:ko:t ito-álki:t ô:mati:ta:t
in the woods, it didn't appear there could be anything but forest,

mv 'sayē resfulotkat vtēkat, uewvt estvmāhē hakehpen,
ma sa:yí: ísfolo:tkâ:t atî:ka:t óywat istamá:ñhi: ha:kíhpin
wherever he had taken him and dragged him around became a great body of water,

mv eto sasvtēto 'stomis aktultoken, naket akseko hakehpet uewv sēhoneckē estvmahet likehpen...
ma itó sâ:sati:to stô:meys aktólto:kín nâ:kit áksiko: ha:kíhpin óywa si:honícki: istamá:hit leykíhpin
and the trees and everything that had been there fell into the water and disappeared, and the great body of water became supernatural...

Aret eravtēpvtet, Estomvranen okat omat rahehcit vyehepvvē tat omis, kohmet...
a:lít ílá:ati:patít istó:mała:nín o:kátt o:mâ:t ía:híhceyt ayíhpayi: -ta:t o:méys kóhmit
As he started back he thought, I'll go see what he meant would happen and then I should leave...

Ayet mv uewv vtēkusan erhueren,
a:yít ma óywa atî:ñkosa:n ílhóylin
He went to the water's edge and stood,

uewv tat 'stvmāhet omēpen hēcet hueren...
óywa -ta:t stamá:ñhit omî:pin hí:ñcit hóylin
and saw that the body of water was very large...

Mv uewv aknvrkvpv mahen uewv oksētkē rakkot osiyet, sēhoneckēt ocēt omis hueren...
ma óywa aknałkapá má:hin óywa oksi:tkí: łákkot osēyyit si:honícki:t ó:ci:t ô:meys hóylin
Near the middle of the water, a great trough appeared, and he stood knowing the water was dangerous...

Mv este cetto hakvtē ak-vrēpet omehpvtet, mv uewv nvrkvpvn afvnken hēcet hueren,
ma ísti cítto ha:katí: ákkałi:pít omíhpatit ma óywa nałkapán a:fânkin hí:cit hóylin
He saw it was the man who had partially turned into a snake surfacing in the middle of the water,

aksumiken huerē monken,
aksomēykin hóyli: mônkin
and as he stood there watching, [the snake] went under again

hvtvm vkuekusēt hvtvm yvfvnket omis.
hatâm akóykosi:t hatâm 'yafânkit o:méys
and came up again not far from the first place.

Mvt 'tepvkeyē welakeyvtēt omētis os komet hueren...
mát 'tipakíyi: wila:kíyáti:t ó:mi:teys ó:s kô:mit hôylin
We went around together, [the man] recalled, standing there...

Hvtvm aksumkat uewv yvtēkvn yvfvniket omen...
hatâm aksômka:t óywa 'yatí:kan 'yafanêykit o:mín
Again [the snake] went under and came up along the edge of the water...

Mv onvpvn hueret onkv, aosiyet,
ma onápan hôyít onká a:osêyyit
Because [the man] was standing above him, he came up,

estvmāhet cetto-cvpko hakēt omēpek vewakket omis...
istamá:ʰit citto-cápkó ha:kî:tt omi:piká
and having become a great, long snake, he just lay there...

'Punvkv tat ehosepē saset omis, 'punayusē monket omen,
yiwâ:kkit o:mêys 'ponaká -ta:t ihosipí: sâ:sit o:mêys póna:yosí: mōnkit o:mín
He had almost forgotten how to talk, but he could still talk a little,

mv em etepvketv em punayet okat:
ma im- itipakíta ím- pona:yít o:kâ:t
and that partner of his [the snake] talked to him:

Hiyomat vyepranetskehaks? kicen...
heyyô:ma:t ayípał:níckih:ks keycín
Are you leaving now? he asked...

Komit omvyis. Estomvranen oketskv omat espokē cehehcit vyēpit omarēs, kohmit atit omis, kicen...
kô:meyt o:máyêys istó:mał:nín o:kíckatt o:mâ:t ispo:kí: cihíhceyt ayi:péyt omá:i:s kóhmeyt â:teyt o:méys keycín
I thought about it. Whatever is going to happen, I came because I want to see you for the last time and then leave, he said...

Momēt os, maket hvkihket omis, momusen estonko țayuset uewv hayehpet likēpen em punayvtēs.
mo:mí:tt ó:s ma:kít hakeykhít o:mêys mō:mosin istónko: tă:ʰyosit óywa ha:yíhpit leykî:pin ím- pona:yatí:s
It has happened, [the snake] said as he cried, and unable to do anything, he talked to [the man] as he sat in the water he had created himself.

Em punayet okat,
ím- pona:yít o:kâ:t
He talked with him, saying,

Cvpuse tat cvhecetv tylkusiš yecvhecvrēs.
capósi -ta:t cahicitá tálⁿkoseys 'yicahícáli:s
My grandmother must come, if only just to see me.

Ēyvpahyet resahtetsken cvhecvrēs.
i:yapáhyit išáhtíckin cahícáli:s
Bring her back with you and she'll see me.

Momen vlahokatskat, cvpuse tat uewv onvpusan ēyohlikvrēs.
mo:mín alá:ho:ká:cka:t capósi -ta:t óywa onáposa:n i:yohléykáli:s
And when you come, my grandmother must sit on the bank right above the water.

Momen cēmet ētusēn liket svokvn hayēcet, 'mvyvhiketsken, vrētt vm etetaken aossarēs, kihcet...
mo:mín cí:mit í:tosi:n lēykit sáwkan há:yi:cít máyaheykíckin alí:ⁿtt amítita:kín a:óssá:li:s kéyhciit
And you must sit apart shaking a rattle and singing, and when I'm ready I'll come out, he said...

Momusen hvvlātket mv ue-hvsē-rakko akcēyehpen, momusen mv 'tepakvtētāt ervtēpvtēs.
mô:mosin halalā:ⁿtkit ma oy-hasi:-lákko akci:yihpin mô:mosin ma 'tipā:kati:ta:t ilāti:patí:s
Then slowly he entered the big lake and his partner returned [home].

[new paragraph]

Mont mvn okvtētōk, vrēpet ervlakat, ayet mv este-mvnette cetto hakvtē epuse likan erohret
mónt mán ô:kati:to:k alí:ⁿpit ilála:kā:t ā:ⁿytit ma isti-manítiti cítto ha:kati: ipósi lēyka:n ilóhliit
And as he said, he came back, and kept going until he got to where the grandmother of the young man who'd turned into a snake lived,

em onayvtēs.
imóna:yatí:s
and told her what had happened.

Mohmen mvn okvtētōk, mv hoktalat hvkīhket liken...
móhmin mán ô:kati:to:k ma hoktā:la:t hakēyⁿhkit lēykin
After he had spoken, the old lady sat and cried...

Momusen estvmvtut on omat hecvranvyat tylkusēt os, makēpet omen...
mô:mosin istamátot ó:n o:mā:t hicála:nayā:t tálⁿkosi:t ô:s má:ki:pít o:mín
Wherever this place is, I must go see him, she said...

Momusen ēyvpahyet esayat 'sayer mv uewv-hvsē-rakko likat eresorvtēs.
mô:mosin i:yapáhyit isa:yâ:t sa:yín ma oywa-hasi:-lákko lēyka:t ilíso:latí:s
Then he took her and came to the big lake.

Mohmet mv resorat, estvn mv hoktalat likētayat,
móhmit ma líso:lâ:t ístan ma hoktâ:la:t lēyki:tâ:ya:t
And when they reached there, where the old woman might sit,

Mvn liketskrēs, kihcen, uewv onvpvn ohliken...
mán leykíckáli:s kéyhcin óywa onápan ohlēykin
he said, You will sit there, and she sat above the water...

Momusen mvn mēcvranen okvtētok, svokv hayēcet, 'mvyvhiken vyēpen...
mô:mosin mán mí:cała:nín o:katí:to:k sáwka há:yi:cít máyaheykín ayí:ñpin
Then as he'd been told to do, he shook a rattle and sang for a while...

Momusen mv uewv sēhoneckat aknrkvvpv mahen uewv oksētkē tvlket estvmāhen ossicet omen kaken vrēpet ohmvtet...
mô:mosin ma óywa si:honícka:t aknałkapá má:hin óywa oksi:tkí: tálkit istamá:ñhin ósseycít o:mín kâ:kin alí:ñpit óhmatit
Then near the middle of the dangerous water, [the snake] made great troughs appear, but they remained seated...

Mi uewv aknrkvvpv 'tan afvnket omen, epuse tat hēcet hvkihket ohliken...
mēy óywa aknałkapá [i:]tá:n a:fānkít o:mín ipósi -ta:t hí:cít hakeyhkít ohlēykin
At a distance he surfaced near the middle of the water, and his grandmother, seeing him so hideous, sat and cried...

Vkueket atet mv epuse ohlikat elecusan yfvnket omis 'punvkv tat omylkvn ehosēpvtēt omehpvtet...
akoykít a:tít ma ipósi ohlēyka:t ilícosa:n 'yafānkít o:mēys 'ponaká -ta:t omālñkan ihosí:pati:t omíhpatit
Moving forward, he came out right below where his grandmother was sitting, but he'd lost his ability to speak...

Atet, yosiyet epuse yohtakhaket ohwakkēt hvkihket omētōk turopuswv ocēt ohwakkēt omisat...
a:tít 'yosēyyit ipósi yohtakhâ:kit ohwâ:kkit hakeyhkít o:mí:to:k tołopósua ó:ci:t ohwâ:kkit o:mēysa:t
He came out and lay across his grandmother, and because he was crying he had tears in his eyes as he lay there...

Momusen ayet mv uewv akhvtvpkē pokēpan vtēkusēt,
mô:mosin ā:ñyit ma óywa akhatápkí: pó:ki:pâ:n atí:ñkosit
Then after a while, he began going back down into the water, and as soon as he had gone down completely,

mv hoktvlē ohlikvtē vtēkat fakke estahcet,
ma hoktalí: ohlēykati: atí:ka:t fákki istáhcit
he broke the ground [leading] up to where the old lady sat,

mv hoktalat mv uewv-hvsē holattat akcehyet sumkehpen,
ma hoktā:la:t ma oywa-hasí: holá:tta:t akcíhyit somkíhpin
and after the old lady had disappeared into the blue waters,

Ervtēpvvntvs, makesasvtēs maket onahoyvnts cē.
ilāti:payántas ma:kisā:satí:s ma:kít oná:ho:yánts cí:
I came home, someone said, it's been told.

Monkv epuse tat ēyvpyēpvētēs kometvt omvnts.
mônka ipósi -ta:t i:yapáyi:patí:s ko:mitát o:mánts
So it is believed that he took his grandmother with him.