

How the Rabbit caught the Sun in a trap: a *čegihá* myth, told in Kwapa by Alphonsus Valliere.

¹⁾
Once upon a time, both Rabbit and his grandmother were living together, it is said (they say).

haⁿ-t^haⁿ-hi ma-shtiⁿ-ke e-kaⁿ naⁿ-pa
hát^hqhí maštíke eká nápa

then, at length; it happened that; once upon a time/rabbit/someone's grandmother, his or her grandmother/two, both

ti-kde ni-k^ha naⁿ i-a.
ttíkde nik^há nq iá.

to live together in same tent, set up housekeeping, dwell together, keep house/they, 3rd person plural continuative sitting/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often/it is said (they say)

²⁾
Rabbit would go hunting very early in the morning, it is said (they say).

ka-sa-ni-aⁿ-te-naⁿ hi ma-shtiⁿ-ke ta-bde de naⁿ i-a.
kasániqtte-nq hí maštíke tábde dé nq iá.

* early in the morning/rabbit/to hunt/to go/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often/it is said (they say)

* *kasáni*, *kasáni*, 'tomorrow'

* *kasaniáti*, 'morning'

* *énq*, *enq^hi*, 'only that, him, her, it'

* *nq*, 'only, just, solely, nothing else, nothing but, alone; habitual, regularly, usually, often; past sign, when; the singular sitting'

* *hi*, 'very, intensifier; to arrive, reach there, have been; to come, be coming here, not own'

³⁾
And when Rabbit arrived early in the morning, a person with a very long foot had already been there and gone, leaving those tracks, it is said (they say).

e-shoⁿ ka-sa-ni-aⁿ-te e-naⁿ hi
ešó kasániqtte énq hí

then, at length; and when, so/morning/only that, him, her, it, just that, nothing but that, that alone/to arrive, reach there, have been

wa-si-kde si ste-te hi
wasíkde si stéte hí

them, they; things, stuff+footprint, trail, track = footprints, trails, tracks/foot+tall, long+very, intensifier = very long foot

i-de naⁿ i-a.

idé nq íá.

*/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often/it is said (they say)

* *hidé, idé*, ‘to have gone, departed’

4)

And so, he wanted to know him, Rabbit wanted to know who was leaving those tracks, it is said (they say).

e-shoⁿ i-ba-hoⁿ koⁿ-da naⁿ i-a.

ešq íbahq kqda nq íá.

then, at length; and when, so/to know, know how, to recognize/to want, desire, wish/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often/it is said (they say)

5)

Rabbit said, “Now, I think I will go before the person, I will arrive there first,” it is said (they say).

“ni-ka-shi-ka niⁿ iⁿ-ch^hoⁿ wi-taⁿ-niⁿ

“nikkašika nq ič^hq wittqni

person, people, a man, human being/3rd person singular moving; the singular moving/now, at this moment, at present/I first, I ahead

* *ettqni*, ‘first ahead; to be the first to reach a place; to anticipate another in doing anything’

bde ta miⁿ-k^he,

bdé ttá mīk^hé,

I go+future, will, shall+1st person singular sitting = I will be going

i-bniⁿ-aⁿ, ” i-e naⁿ i-a.

ibniq, ” ié nq íá.

I think that/to say/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often/it is said (they say)

6)

Rabbit got up very early in the morning to go hunting, just as he usually did, and departed, it is said (they say).

kasaniaⁿte hi ki-ta naⁿ a-naⁿ de i-a.

kasániqtte hí kitá nq ánq dé íá.

morning/very, intensifier/to arise, to get up/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often/*to go/it is said (they say)

* JOD notes *ánq*, ‘as same as’

7)

And then again, just as before, the person had been along leaving a trail, it is said (they say).

shi-naⁿ haⁿ-t^haⁿ-hi ni-ka-shi-ka niⁿ

šiná hát^hq^hí níkkašika nĭ

again, and, also/then, at length; it happened that/person, people, a man, human being/3rd person singular moving; the singular moving

si-kde t^he i-a.

sikdé t^he iá.

footprint, trail, track/the past act, completed action; the singular, standing or collection/it is said (they say)

⁸⁾

And then, Rabbit arrived back home, it is said (they say).

haⁿ-t^haⁿ-hi k^hi naⁿ i-a.

hát^hq^hí k^hi nq iá.

then, at length; it happened that/to arrive back at one's own/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often/it is said (they say)

⁹⁾

It is said, Rabbit said: “My grandmother! Even though I have planned on being the first one there, when I go, a person has already been there ahead of me,” it is said (they say).

i-e-kdi i-a:

iékdi iá:

to say as follows/it is said (they say)

* JOD notes *iékdi = ke*, ‘to say as follows’

“iⁿ-kaⁿ e! wi-taⁿ-niⁿ-xti bde a-niⁿ i-he a-ki-zhaⁿ-miⁿ taⁿ,

“jkká e! wittqñxti bde áñj ihé ákkížqmí-tq,

my grandmother!/I first, I ahead/very, real, fully/I go/*/I think of myself, I think about myself, I regard myself/and, when, since, as; because; if

* *anihé, anjhé, áñj ihé*, ‘1st person singular moving’

ni-ka-shi-ka miⁿ aⁿ-ka-xa de t^he naⁿ,” i-a.

níkkašika mĭ qkáxa de t^he nq,” iá.

person, people, a man, human being/a, an, one/it gets ahead of me/to go/the past act, completed action; the singular, standing or collection/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often/it is said (they say)

* *kaxá*, ‘to excel, surpass, superior, go ahead or beyond a person or place, to get ahead of, out run, out distance; to disobey’

¹⁰⁾

Rabbit said, “My grandmother! I will make a snare for him and then I will catch him,” it is said (they say).

“iⁿ-kaⁿ e! o-k^hi-oⁿ-de a-pa-xe tta miⁿ-k^he,

“jkká e! ok^hiqde áppayé tta mjk^he,

my grandmother!/a snare, trap; to get oneself into difficulty, throw oneself into, tangled in, be in trouble/I make something for someone/future, will, shall/1st person singular sitting

¹¹⁾

e-shoⁿ bdi-ze ta miⁿ-k^he,”

ešq bdizé tta mjk^he,”

then, at length; and when, so/I get, take, seize, receive/future, will, shall/1st person singular sitting

i-yi i-a.

iyí iá.

to have said/it is said (they say) = he said, it is said (they say)

¹²⁾

The old woman said, “Why would you do that?” it is said (they say).

“e ha-zhoⁿ te

“éhažq tte

aforementioned, that, he, she, it/you act or do a certain way; what, how, why you do/future, shall, will be

ko-i-she zhoⁿ taⁿ,”

kóišezq-tq,”

so, that, that part, that sort; aforementioned words or manner/you do or be/and, when, since, as; because; if

* JOD notes *éhažq tte kóiše tq*, ‘why does he wish to do that’; *éhažq tte kóiše qwitq*, ‘why do they wish to do that’; *éhažq tte kóiše žqwitq*, ‘why do ye wish to do that’

i-yi i-a wa-x’o zhi-ka niⁿ-k^he.

iyí iá waxʔo žiká njk^he.

woman+small, little+3rd person singular continuative sitting; the singular, sitting = the old woman said, it is said (they say)

* *waxʔo žiká*, ‘old woman, little old lady, elderly woman’

¹³⁾

Rabbit said, “I really hate the person,” it is said (they say).

“ni-ka-shi-ka niⁿ o-a-kaⁿ-shi-ka hi,”

“níkkašika nį oákkqšiká hí,”

person, people, a man, human being/3rd person singular moving, the singular moving/I hate/very, intensifier

i-yi i-a ma-shtiⁿ-ke.

iyí iá maštjke.

to have said+it is said (they say)+rabbit = rabbit said, it is said (they say)

¹⁴⁾

And so, the Rabbit departed, it is said (they say).

e-shoⁿ ma-shtiⁿ-ke niⁿ de i-a.

ešó maštjke nĭ de ia.

then, at length; and when, so/rabbit/3rd person singular moving, the singular moving/to go/it is said (they say)

¹⁵⁾

After Rabbit traveled awhile, again the tracks were already there, the person had already left the tracks” it is said (they say).

de shoⁿ-niⁿ,

dé šonĭ,

to go/still, yet; at any rate; and, so; thus+3rd person singular moving; the singular moving = after he had moved awhile, for sometime

shi-naⁿ si-kde de t^{he} naⁿ i-a.

šínq síkdé de t^{he} nq íá.

again, and, also/footprint, trail, track/to go/the past act, completed action; the singular, standing or collection/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often/it is said (they say)

¹⁶⁾

And so, the Rabbit laid there, waiting for night to come, it is said (they say).

e-shoⁿ e-ti hoⁿ t^{he}

ešó etti hō t^{he}

then, at length; and when, so/there, then, said of time as well as place/night/the singular, standing or collection; the past act, completed action

i-da-pe zhoⁿ k^{he} naⁿ i-a ma-shtiⁿ-ke.

idáppe žq k^{he} nq ía maštjke.

to wait for someone not yet in sight/to sleep, lie, recline/the singular lying object/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often/it is said (they say)/rabbit

¹⁷⁾

Rabbit made a noose of a bowstring and putt it in the place where the footprints usually were, it is said (they say).

maⁿ-te-kaⁿ niⁿ-k^{he} o-naⁿ-shke taⁿ

máttekká nĭk^{he} onáške tq

bow+sinew, string, line; root of a plant = bowstring/the singular, sitting; 3rd person singular continuative sitting/a noose/and, when, since, as; because; if

ki-ka-xe naⁿ

kikáye nq

to make something for someone/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often

si-kde de naⁿ t^he

sikdé dé nq t^he

footprint, trail, track/to go/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often/the past act, completed action; the singular, standing or collection

e-ti i-naⁿ-de naⁿ i-a.

ettí ináde nq íá.

there, then, said of time as well as place/to put a singular, sitting object/the past act, completed action; the singular, standing or collection/it is said (they say)

18)

And then, very early in the morning, Rabbit arrived there, to the place where the footprints usually were, to look at his trap, it is said (they say).

haⁿ-t^haⁿ-hi ka-sa-ni-aⁿ-te hi taⁿ,

hát^hq^hi kasániátte hí-tq,

then, at length; it happened that/morning/very, intensifier/and, when, since, as; because; if

o-k^hi-oⁿ-de niⁿ-k^he

ok^híq^he nìk^hé

a snare, trap; to get oneself into difficulty, throw oneself into, tangled in, be in trouble/the singular, sitting; 3rd person singular continuative sitting

ki-toⁿ-we hi naⁿ i-a.

kittówe hí nq íá.

to look at one's own/to arrive, reach there, have been/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often/it is said (they say)

19)

And then, he caught the Sun, it is said (they say).

haⁿ-t^haⁿ-hi mi niⁿ-k^he e-naⁿ

hát^hq^hi mí nìk^he énaq

then, at length; it happened that/sun/the singular, sitting; 3rd person singular continuative sitting/only that, him, her, it, just that, nothing but that, that alone

di-ze niⁿ-k^he naⁿ i-a.

dizé nìk^hé nq íá.

to get, take, seize, receive/3rd person singular continuative sitting; the singular, sitting/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often/it is said (they say)

20)

Running very fast, he went homeward to tell what happened, it is said (they say).

taⁿ-niⁿ hi naⁿ-xti

ttáqⁿí hí nq^xti

run, as a person not an animal/very, intensifier/*

* *nqxti*, ‘past sign, when; regularly, usually, often+very, real, fully’ or *nqxti*,
‘only, just, solely, nothing else, nothing but, alone+very, real, fully’

o-da kde naⁿ i-a.

odá kdé nq iá.

to tell something, to tell about; report, inform/to go home, to start homeward/past sign, when;
regularly, usually, often/it is said (they say)

21)

**Rabbit said, “My grandmother! I have caught something or other, but it really scares me,”
it is said (they say).**

“iⁿ-kaⁿ e! ta-taⁿ e-t^haⁿ

“ikká e! táttq et^há

my grandmother!/what, something+aforementioned, that, he, she, it+3rd person singular standing;
the standing = something or other, whatever it is

bdi-ze miⁿ-k^he niⁿ-t^he,

bdizé mǐk^hé nǐt^hé,

I get, take, seize, receive/1st person singular sitting/although, though, but

aⁿ-di-na-xi-da hi naⁿ,

qđínaxidá hí nq,

to scare, frighten me/very, intensifier/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often

i-yi i-a ma-shtiⁿ-ke.

iyí iá maštǐke.

to have said+it is said (they say)+rabbit = rabbit said, it is said (they say)

22)

**Rabbit said, “My grandmother! I want to get my bowstring, but it really scares me,” it is
said (they say).**

“iⁿ-kaⁿ e! maⁿ-te-kaⁿ a-kdi-ze koⁿ-bda niⁿ-t^he,

“ikká e! mátttekká akdize kkqbdá nǐt^hé,

my grandmother!/bowstring/I get, take, seize, receive my own/I want/although, though, but

aⁿ-di-na-xi-da hi naⁿ,

qđínaxidá hí nq,

to scare, frighten me/very, intensifier/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often

i-yi i-a ma-shtiⁿ-ke.

iyí iá maštǐke.

to have said+it is said (they say)+rabbit = rabbit said, it is said (they say)

23)

Rabbit took his knife, and he went there, to the place where he had trapped the Sun, it is said (they say).

ma-hiⁿ kdi-ze naⁿ

máhĭ kdizé nq

knife/to get, take, seize, receive one's own/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often

e-ti de naⁿ i-a.

étti de nq iá.

there, then, said of time as well as place/to go/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often/it is said (they say)

²⁴⁾

And so, Rabbit arrived there, very close to where he had trapped the Sun, to retrieve his bowstring, it is said (they say).

e-shoⁿ koⁿ-ha hi ki-hi i-a.

ešq kkóha hi kihí iá.

then, at length; and when, so/near, by+very, intensifier = very near/to have reached there having gone there for it/it is said (they say)

²⁵⁾

The Sun said, “You have done bad! Why did you do that? Come here and untie me!” it is said (they say).

“shi-ke shka-xe!

“šiké škáye!

bad/you make, do, cause

hoⁿ-t^he ko-i-she zhoⁿ e?

hót^he kóiše žq e?

why/so, that, that part, that sort; aforementioned words or manner/you do, you be/question sign

²⁶⁾

de-do hi a-t^haⁿ aⁿ-di-shka!”

dédo hí át^hq ádišká!”

here, this place, right here/to come, to be coming here, not own/when, and/to untie, loosen, open for me+imperative command = untie me!

i-yi i-a mi niⁿ-k^he.

iyí iá mi nĭk^hé.

to have said+it is said (they say)+sun+3rd person singular continuative sitting; the singular, sitting = the sun said, it is said

²⁷⁾

Rabbit tried to do as the Sun had asked, but each time he attempted to go and cut the Sun loose, he was so afraid, he would pass by a little to one side, he couldn't go directly to the Sun, it is said (they say).

*ma-shtiⁿ-ke e-ti de niⁿ naⁿ niⁿ-t^{he}
maštíke etti de nĭ ną nĭt^hé*

rabbit/there, then, said of time as well as place/to go/3rd person singular moving; the singular moving/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often/although, though, but

*naⁿ-pe hi naⁿ
náppe hi ną*

to fear the sight of something/very, intensifier/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often

*e-ki-zhi i-aⁿ-he naⁿ i-a.
ekízi íqhe ną íá.*

somewhere else, elsewhere; different+to go or pass by that particular way, rather than by another = to (walk) go partly aside from, not straight to the place/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often/it is said (they say)

28)

As Rabbit was doing that, passing by a little to one side, he quickly passed the Sun, bent over with his head bowed and cut the bowstring. Sun's departure was so abrupt, it had already gone high above, it is said (they say).

*e niⁿ-t^{he} ma-shtiⁿ-ke a-ki-a-naⁿ t^{hi}-d[e] a-taⁿ
é nĭt^hé maštíke ákkianą t^{hi}d[é] áttą*

aforementioned, that, he, she, it/continuative perfective; heretofore/rabbit/to run a race, to race/to pass by/and, when

*be-x'iⁿ hi maⁿ-niⁿ taⁿ,
bex?í hi maⁿĭ tą,*

to bend down, to stoop+very, intensifier+to walk = to walk with bowed head low, to walk very bent over/and, when, since, as; because; if

*pa-se de-de i-a, maⁿ-te-kaⁿ k^he.
páse dedé íá, máttekká k^hé.*

to cut off with a knife/suddenly, expresses sudden action/it is said (they say)/bowstring/the singular lying object

29)

*ko-i-shoⁿ-taⁿ mi maⁿ-shi hi-de i-a.
kóišóttą mi maší hidé íá.*

then, thus, accordingly, in that way, therefore/sun/high, upper, upward, above/to have gone/it is said (they say)

30)

And when Rabbit passed the Sun bent over to cut the snare, the fur between his shoulders was scorched yellow by the Sun's intense heat, it is said (they say).

*e-shoⁿ ma-shtiⁿ-ke ba-ko hiⁿ ke
ešó maštíke bakkó hĭ ke*

then, at length; and when, so/rabbit/the lower part of the neck of animals, the hump between the shoulders of animals/fur, hair of the body, down of bird/the plural standing

a-ta-zi hi naⁿ i-a,

átazi hí nq íá,

on, upon+by extreme temperature+yellow = turn yellow by extreme heat upon, scorched yellow, burned yellow/very, intensifier/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often/it is said (they say)

a-ta-zaⁿ a-ta-ha taⁿ-ha i-a.

átazq áttahá tqhá íá.

on, upon+by extreme temperature+? = shone hot on/too, exceedingly, much/because/it is said (they say)

³¹⁾

The Rabbit arrived back home, it is said (they say).

ma-shtiⁿ-ke niⁿ k^{hi} naⁿ i-a.

maštjke nĭ k^{hi} nq íá.

rabbit/3rd person singular moving; the singular moving/to arrive back at one's own/past sign, when; regularly, usually, often/it is said (they say)

³²⁾

Rabbit said, “My grandmother! Ouch! I am burnt, the heat has left absolutely nothing at all of me!” it is said.

“i-kaⁿ e! a-tshi-tshi!

“jkká é! átsitši!

my grandmother!/an interjection, showing that the speaker was in pain, caused from the heat of the sun

aⁿ-ta-ni-ke naⁿ-e-xti!”

qtánike-nq éxti!”

for me, to me, at me+by extreme temperature+to have none, be lacking+past sign, when; regularly, usually, often+very, real, fully = I am fully burned to nothing

i-yi i-a ma-shtiⁿ-ke.

iyí ia maštjke.

to have said+it is said (they say)+rabbit = rabbit said, it is said (they say)

³³⁾

The old lady said, “I think the heat has left absolutely nothing at all of my grandchild for me,” it is said. From that time on, the Rabbit has had a singed spot on its back, between the shoulders.

“wi-to-shpa, aⁿ-ta-ni-ke-xti a-zha-miⁿ, ”

“wittóšpa, qtánikéxti ážqmí,”

my grandchild/for me, to me, at me+by extreme temperature+to have none, be lacking+very, real, fully = fully burn to nothing for me/I think

i-e niⁿ i-a

ié nị iá

to say/3rd person singular moving, the singular moving/it is said (they say)

wa-x'ó zhi-ka niⁿ-k^he.

waxʔo žiká nịk^he.

woman+small, little+3rd person singular continuative sitting; the singular, sitting = the old woman, the little old lady, the elderly woman

³⁴⁾

The end.

shoⁿ

šq

the end, enough, that will do