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Lakota Sioux text
Authors Clifford Monroe, Jim Butler, Chadwick Stendal, Patricia C. Stendal, Irwin Firchow, and Glenn H. Graham

Submitted by- Jim Butler Informant- Clifford Monroe Language- Lakota Sioux Date- July 30, 1963

- 1. ko'škalaka wa o'zuye 'opxa 'keya-p young man a warparty (he) joined (they) say-pl.
- 2. ho na hạ wa'na zu'ya 'ayi 3. na hạ so and then now warpath (they) went and then

'txoka ma'kxočhe i'k'ta i'huni-pi 4. yukxa o'zuye enemy land there (they) reached-pl. then warparty

txaka wa 'ata-wi'ča-ya-pi 'keya-pi 5. ho'ča large a (they) met-them-...-pl. (they) say-pl. then

ko'škalaka ki le 'eya na'ta 'eya εl 'opxa young man the this to charge in (he) joined

6. ho na ha ku'wa-a'wiča-hiyu-pi 7. o'zuye so and then (they) chased-them-this way-pl. warparty

txaka-pi ča'ke na'pxa-pi 8. ho na ha wa'k'pala large-pl. so (they) fled-pl. so and then creek

''oha gəli'ču-pi 9. e'čuha a'šuka-t'a'i'yeya-pi through (they) came-pl. just then ..horse (they) shot (his)-pl.

ke lo. hoca e'taha wa'k'popxa i'naxema 'xpayi (he) said then from along creek (he) hid (he) lay down

na ha i'thel a'wi-ya ke ll. ho 'txoka and then until sun-go down (he) said so enemy

ki le'na la'kxota ki ku'wa-?a'wiča-hiyu-pi the these Lakota the (they) chased-them-this way-pl.

- 12. na ha ho 'lila 'txehal ku'wa-ahixpe-wi'kha-ya-pi and then so very great distance (they) chased-..-them-...-
- 13. 'hoča 'ampo-e'čiyataha 'op'ta a'ke kigi'la-pi ke then day-about across again (they) went-pl. (he)said
- 14. 'hoča hel 'xpayahi na ha am'pet?-ata hel then there (he) lays and then day-all there

'xpayahi 15. na ha ho xta'yetu ɛl ho wana ti-'atakiya (he) lay and then so evening in so then home-toward

gi'ni-k'ta i'yuk'ça ke 16. ho yukxa e'čuha (he) go-will (he) thought (he) said and then just then

'lila ma'gažu a'hi 17. na ha max'piya na'xleča much rain (it) came and then cloud (it) burst čake 'osmaka wa wa'k'pala 'opxa 'xpaya hohel he'tu then valley a creek along (he) lay there from

'naže 18. na ha xe-yatakiya i'yaya (he) stood up and then mountain-toward (he) went

'keya-pi ho xe-'yatakiya 'hečiya i'guga (they)-say-pl. so mountain-toward over there overhanging cliffs

'txa-kiya ča 'hečiya i'huni ke 19. ho na big-pl. so over there (he) arrived (he) said so and

ha 'lila ma'gažu čake 'tokeške ye 'toket'kiya 'yekiha then much rain then how to go which way to go-if

wayake-šni ho eyaš e'ya yu'txa-txa-kɛl pa'tuš-tuš-kɛl (he) saw-not so but (he) felt-felt-along (he) crouched-

ye 20. ho na ha wa'kiya crouched-moving (he) went so and then thunder

tu'wahigela-pi 'čana-šna ho a'ke ma'kxoče (they) opened eyes-pl. (it) happened so again land

1 This young man has joined a warparty 2 and they were going on a warpath 3 and they have now reached enemy territory. 4 They have met a large enemy war party. 5 So this young man was one among those that led the charge. 6 The enemy had charged also 7 but since it was a large war party they had to retreat. 8 Just as they were coming close to a creek 9 this young man's horse was shot from under him. 10 So from then on he had to hide along the creek all day until the sun had set. 11 The enemy had chased the Sioux 12 for a long distance covering many miles 13 and it was about daybreak when they returned and passed by where this young man lay hidden. 14 So he lay hidden there all day long until the sun went down. 15 Then he would return home under cover of darkness. 16 He could not remain hidden in the valley anyhow because it started to rain. 17 There was a cloud burst and it began to flood the valley where he was laying so he started for the mountains nearby where there were overhanging cliffs. 18 He started for this mountain where there were overhanging cliffs where he would seek shelter from the rain. 19 It was raining so hard he was not able to see where or how he was going but he felt his way with his head bowed, facing the storm. 20 Whenever the lightening flashed he was able to see ahead and he would start running

Submitted by: Chadwick Stendal Informant: Clifford Monroe Language: Lakota Sioux Date: July 27, 1963

1. hokahé waná eya wambalí lets get started now (attention of listeners) eagle

ki ha waxúpa-khosa ki witšáyuwita the (continutive) wings-to flap the to call them together

ke 2. ho-nahá minítšiyapi wambalí he said (narrative marker)-then they had counsel eagle

ki waxúpa-khosa witšáyuwita ophminítšiye khihệ the wings-to flap to call the together with-meeting that

tuwéxtši wahóxpi káginkhta wa? ónspe khinthta waži igini-pi someone nest will make to teach to him one to seek-pl

3. ho-yunkxa minitšiyapina halhata ki (narrative marker)-then the meeting-and magpie the

he wahóxpi kagınkhta yuštámpi 4. hey wahóxpi that nest will make they decided that nest

wašte kága tša héon wahóxpi kax-waⁱyúpikatša he good he made so nest able-to make that

kax-?unspe-kinkhta yuštámpi 5. ho-tsa khe able-to teach-to him they decided (narrative marker)

waná halhátakiha witšítxokaph inážinaha 6. therefore now the magpie in front he stood up

ho-wahóxpi kax-únspe witšákiyınkhta (narrative marker)-nest to make-teach him towards them

inaže na heyé 7. ho thokáxheya he stood and he said (narrative marker) first of all

tšasakala eta iyatšupina kha? Itšiyo phtephteya sticks some you take and one cross (pluralize the prev.)

eyagınakapi-na tšasákhala eya itšu-na ho you put- and stick some he took and (narrative marker)

ka?itšiyo phtephteya °éginake 8. hoyúnkxa one cross (pluralize the prev.) ground then

píškokiha héye ho-eya miš-eyaš owákhihi miš-eyaš nighthawk he said listen now I-also able to I-also

heyná owákhihi eyí-na kiya?iyáye 9. ho these able to he said-and he went to fly away (narr. mar.) he ampétu lehá piško kihe wahóxpi thawa that day to-this nighthawk the-that nest his own

ki-ha eya tšansákala tónakeyil ka?ítšo phtéphtéya the now sticks several one cross (plural. prev.)

keyıl eginakapi 10. hél-aka withkaki ikhpakhnot in order they put down there-ontop of the eggs hatch-pl.

witšákiyapi na onžítsalaki itšax-witšhakiyapi eya stustéla they let and nestling to grow- towards them now trouble

The eagle gathered all the winged birds or fowls together so it was said. 2. and then they had a meeting. The eagle gathered all the winged fowls together and had a meeting. The reason for this - they wanted to find someone who could teach them how to make nests. 3. In this meeting they decided to appoint the magpie to teach how to make nests. 4. The reason they appointed him was that he built a good nest and they appointed him to teach. 5. So the magpie got in front of the meeting and he got up to teach. 6. He got up and said first of all. 7. You take a few sticks and lay them crisscross on the ground and he took a few sticks and laid them criss cross on the ground. 8. Then the night hawk said I know how to do this- its easy-I can do it myself and he flew away. 9. So he went and layed down a few sticks on the ground criss cross, not in order, and 10. that is how they make their nests and raise their young to this day, with hardships.

Submitted by: Patricia C. Stendal Informant: Clifford Monroe Language: Lakota Sioux Date: July 22, 1963

1. ho-héo zinthkála ki (narrative marker)-for that reason bird the

lehál ?aºótšhikhpani-nia wahóxpe this present time one higher than the other-reduplicater nest

txáwa-pi-khiha ?6°itšhihaha ila °ékax °ayá-pi his own-plural-? in a row ? to make carrying on-plural

2. ho wahóxpi kilé kax aya (narrative marker) nest this to make carrying on

hệ po pi t sử nahá t shạ wạn kal t sạ pokhi za the for that reason he took then tree up tree forked

wa ?ekhta ?égɛnake 3. tšha ki-lé haskhi na a over there tree this-here tall and

txánka ho na okhižathe txánka hétu-tšha big (narrative marker) and forked big there-right

°égεnakhe hétšhiya wahóxpi ki °égεnakhe 4. ho he put it up there nest the he put it (narrative marker)

na okhša kax ofyaye 5. ho hétšhel and around to make to carry (narrative marker) so that

kax 'áye na ha ho watúk tiyahal to make to carry and then (narrative marker) whereabouts

yuštą 6. ho yúkxą wažíni ?iyéha (narrative marker) so not one equal

'ekxágišni 'íšəla hetšhél wahóxpi-khile wahétšhetuya he made not he alone so that nest - ? complete

ompétu lehá halháta ki hé wahóxpi tháwa ki he day this magpie the that nest his own the that

líla wášte 8. tšhánke pihánkeya wankátuya na very good and or then outstanding most high and

tšha okižate sutá ki hétšhiya-tšha káge tree forked strong the yonder (continuative) he made

9. ho tšha m⁹nihéyaye ⁹eyaš ⁹okax (narrative marker) continuative flood but float

'iyaya 'okihi-sni lo. na'is m'eniki 'eyeha 'ihoni it went able -not or water even reach

okíhi-šni ll. ho na°iš nako txate txanka able - not (narrative marker) or also wind big

'éyaš tšha ki le yužų 'ehantaš 'tšhela wahóxpi but tree the this uproot if only nest

ki lé 'ihanke 'okfhi the this the end able

1. So to this day all birds' nests are built as far as they saw the magpie build. 2. He took this nest he was building on the ground a d put it in the fork of a big tree. 3. This tree is large and tall with a big strong fork. That is where he placed the nest. 4. He started to build around the fork. 5. He kept building around the fork until he finished the nest. 6. He was the only one who finished the nest. All the others had left before he finished it. 7. so to this day the magpie is the only one who has a good nest. 8. It's built in a tall tree in the highest and strongest fork. 9. If it floods it will not be swept away. 10. The water will not reach it. 11. If a tornado comes it must uproot the tree to destroy the nest.

Submitted by: Irwin Firchow Informant: Clifford Monroe Language: Lakota Sioux Date: July 30, 1963

A MARRIAGE CEREMONY

1. si'tšagu-'t^hipi-εl a'pεtuwa-εl ome'nitšiye Rosebud Reservation-home-in day-in council

hek'takiya wa'nietu wik''tšemina nuph a'ke-šakowi way back winters ten two again-seven

wa'he-tuk te-hal 2. ho'he to'gaši 'thipi 'etutša about-that-time so father-in-law home right at

omε'nitšiye 3. oga'lala omι'nitšiye council Pine Ridge Sioux Reservation council

4. a'te kxạ'gi ga'lešga ki'tš h i wa-'?i ho'na hɛl father crow spotted with I-go then there

y-'kipi 5. 'honawana y-'kigəlakapi y-gə'liyatsupi
we-arrived now we-moved (camp) we-left

6. k ta-'yukxa a'te wili'yum o-'ma-kiyakina ha ho just-then father William me-he told agreed so

wi'khošgalakawa hel ki'tšhi wa''u k'ta tša ma-'k''upi young lady-a there with stay will be me-give

'hotša ho'heha eya 7. ki'tšhi o'wak pamıni-ta y-'kipina so then about (P mrk.) with agency-to we-arrived

woi'yukhiye 'woapi u-'kitšupi 'hona u-ga'lipi permission paper we-took then we-came back

he'tšų-k[?] pupi-na t^hi-'yata ų-gə'li-pi-na ų-'kigaluwiyeyapi he did-we-and home-at us-came-(pl)-and us-ready-(pl)

na hex'ta-kiya ų-'ki-pi 8. 'hona hel 'wana op''tap'ta and back-toward us-went-(pl) then there now (reciprocal)

'keel wa'kitšitš'eu-pi 9. 'honaha he'hal-wana (state of being) things-they give-they so then there-now

a'petu-wa-εl ų kitšiyuzapi-xta wa-εl-i'honi 10. ho'he?o day-a-in us-marry-they-will a-on-reach so

txo'gaheya i'nikaxa-pi 'honaha hel wia mi'txawa-kiha first one sweat bath-they so then there woman my own-have for

'heha 'wana huka-k''ta-tša ho-yu'wiyea-pi 11. ho that now ceremony-(fut.)-so (mrk)- prepare-they (mrk) i'nikaxa-pi na iga'luštą-pi εl hohe'hąl 'wana ho sweat bath-they and finished-they in so then now (mrk)

hyka-k[?]'ta-tša wi'nuxtšala wa agı'li-pi 12. 'honaha ceremony-(fut.)-so old lady a brought-they so then

he 'wia mi'txawa-kiha hu'ka ki'yi-k'te 13. 'hotša that woman my own-have for ceremony to make-(fut.) so

o'wįštxo-pi ta'tąka-ha-wą o'wįštxo-pi spread a blanket-they buffalo-hide-a spread a blanket-they

na'ha hel 'eganaka-pi 14. 'honaha 'wokiyake 'honaha then there placed-they so then talked to so then

wa'tšekiye iga'lušta εl 'hona 'wiyaka 'watšihi prayed (3rd) finished (3rd) in then also feather eagle plume

wa a''opaza-pi 15. 'honaha ho'he'o 'etaha a put in hair-they so then for that reason from

ta°akuttona e'tšų-k°ta-tša he'na ų'spe-kiyapi what-how many do- would those to teach-they to her

o'kiyaka-pi 16. ho 'heta hi'yunaha 'wana 'sapxa to tell-they (mrk) from there they came-and now past

pe'žuta-yuta omε'nitšiye-k[?]te ho'he?ο iga'luwiyea-pi medicine (Peyote)-to eat council-(fut.) so ready-they

na yuwi'yea-pi 17. 'hona xta'yɛtu ɛl 'wana tšhe'thi-pi and prepare-they then also evening in now build fire -they

'honaha ome'nitšiye 18. 'yukxa 'wana ome'nitšiye he'eya so then council that way

to'gahe'a'e-šna wa'tšekiya-pi 19. pe'žuta-yuta-pi first-(action) object prayed-they medicine-to eat-they

iga'luštą-pi e'hątąnaš ho'he wi'tšhaša-wa lo'wa-k'te-kile finished-they and then that man-a sing-(fut.)-this here

i'ye-tuwa tšex-apxeki-k'ta kahi'nixe 20. hona'he he-who drum-to beat-(fut.) appoint then that

tšex-'ak'tšipxe ho'hetš-ɛl hu'hep-ata 'iyake 21.'honaha drum-he beat for him so that-in night-all going on so then

a'yapa-pi ho'he iga'lušta-pi i'k²ta-hetš-εl daylight came on-they so they finished-they to the end-that-in

'eya (P. mrk.)

A MARRIAGE CEREMONY

Explanation and Free Translation

The above text concerns only the preparation for the weding ceremony. After this preparation, colored feathers were given to both the man and the woman. Each feather signified a duty or characteristic of a good husband or wife. Just prior to the giving of feathers, specific types of food are given to the couple with accompanying duties of service to the family and mankind. The legal marriage follows these ceremonies and then a feast for all attending. The wedding is concluded with the giving of gifts.

The free translation of this text which is concerned with only the preparatory activities is as follows:

1. On a certain day there was a council on the Rosebud Reservation about twenty seven years ago. 2. The council was at my father-in-law's place. 3. The treaty council. 4. I went with my father, spotted crow, and we arrived there. 5. Now we prepared to leave. 6. Just then my father, William, told me that there was a young lady there that they wanted me to marry. 7. We went to the agency with her and obtained a marriage license and came home, and after we came home we started preparations and then went back. 8. So then they gave gifts to each other. 9. So the day we were to get married arrived. 10. So first of all they prepared a sweat-bath because my wife was going to go through kinship ceremony. 11. After they finished the sweat bath, first they brought an elderly lady. 12. She was going to lead the kinship ceremony. 13. So they prepared a place by spreading a buffalo robe on the ground and set her on that. 14. She gave her a charge to keep and prayed over her and put a white eagle plume on her head. 15. They told her and taught her all the things she had to do concerning the ceremony. 16. And then came next now for the Peyote meeting. So they prepared and were ready. 17. Now first they built a fire and prepared the Peyote for the meeting. 18. Now the first thing they do is pray. 19 When they finish eating Peyote, then the man who begins to sing picks out his own drummer. 20. This singing and drumming goes on all night. 21. They sing all night until daylight.

'eya is a type of utterance final marker.

ho is a marker used to call one's attention to what is being said.

Submitted by: Glenn H. Graham Informant: Clifford Monroe Language: Lakota Sioux Date: July, 1963

TEXT I

1. ho 'yokha. 'wo'etšo. wa yo'ha.//
So then a way of doing things and he has (the horse) to'hon tho'ka·šila tša'khu 'ogana· 'yin·aha·/ tu'wa 'a·taya when grandfather rode that way he goes who meets 'hathanaš/ 'hau e'ya 'tšanašna/ hoo ''išoeya/ 'šokakhaki he would hello say if he would so he too horse the won'tšag^eni p^ha'tak^h i'naži// 2. ho'tša/ t^hoka'šila/ ho'// right away suddenly to stop then grandfather so 'i'na·x^θni· 'to·kεt'kiya 'yak^hεš tu'wa tša'k^hog^θna in a hurry where he goes who on the road 'a · ta · yin · a / 'ha u e 'ya 'tšanašna / ho · pha 'tak h i'naži he meets hello says when he so suddenly to stop 'tšanəšna t h o'ka•šila 'tona•/ hix'p h a• no'sɛšna• 'i'yaye// whenever grandfather how many fall close to he went 'ho na· ?a'khe wa'tuk'ti ye'hal ?i'na·x⁹ni·/ 4. wa'šiph so and again about when time in a hurry told to tšakhe· ma'sop'iye ta'kiya/ 5. 'oikato 'lila oi'na·xoni. so then store towards to gallop very in a hurry 'yekh wale'hal// khoš'kalaka e'ya• 'ata• wi'tšaya he is going just then young men some he met he to them tša 6. 'ha^u 'ha^u 'e'yap²tšak^he 'ha^u 'ha^u (continuative) hello hello they said so then hello hello tša e'yakəla 7. 'tha·ki pha'thakh i'naži 'tša/ he answered his own (horse) suddenly stopped (continuative) 'i'yop'teya hix'paya/ ma'ka'ik ta hix'paye// 8. ho'hetato go past to fall to the ground he fell tho'ka·šila iyoki'phi-šni 'tša/ 'ka°ospe-k°ta grandfather liked it not (continuative) he was going to re-'keyε// train him (-k²ta is future) he said

FREE TRANSLATION

1. This horse had a habit and whenever Grandfather rode this horse down the road and met somebody and they greeted each other, "Hello", the horse would stop right away. 2. Then, if Grandfather was in a hurry to where he was going and met someone on the road, when they said, "Hello", the horse would stop short, and Grandfather came near falling off several times.

3. So again at another time he was in a hurry. 4. She (grand-mother) sent him on an errand to the store. 5. He was galloping along in a hurry when he met some young men. 6. "Hello, Hello," they said, so he said, "Hello, Hello." 7. His own (horse) stopped suddenly (and) he fell off. 8. Grandfather did not like it, so he said he was going to re-train him.

TEXT II

l. ho· he'?etša t^ho'ka·šila ma'sop[?]iyε'-ta '?i so that one grandfather store towards he went na· 'galegu 2. wa'lehal '?iyohakaph mi'n·i and he was going home just then afterwards water hi·'yayε// 3. họ·'tša/ tšạ'kogana tši'yak[?]t^hǫpi it is going Then on the way (home) bridge ?i'yaye// 4. ho''tša/ 'wa/ 'okax a (indef. article) floated down it went then g'llinaha./ 'ohota ?el ?i'naži// 'eyaš 'lila he is going (home) shore there he stopped but very mi'n·i-ki šme'ya hi'yæ// 5. ho·'tša tši'yak[?]topi hel water the flowing deep then bridge the a'g^alag^ala 'i'naži / 6. 'ohota ''el 'i'naži / on the edge he stopped shore there he stopped 7. wa'lehal khoš'kalaka e'ya. ?o'ma ?e'tsiyataha just then young men some other from ''u na 'o'metšiyataha 'ohota ɛl 'hi 'naži-pi // they came other from shore in they came they stopped 8. ho. tšake./ 'hetšena khoš'kalaka he'na / (-pi=plural) so then that way young men those 'ha^u 'ha^u e'yap' -tšak^he t^ho'ka·šila 'ha^u e·k^h hello hello they said then Grandfather hello he said wa'lehal 'thawaki naš'lokiyayi na mi'n·ikh tšo'ka just then his own (horse) jumped ahead and water middle piges'?ε i'yε // 9. ho. 'hetšena ho. mi'n.i 'mahel i'yayi splash he went so then so water under he went na o'hota $\epsilon \cdot 'k$ 'ta 'kak 'kak 'i 'naži // 10. tho'ka \cdot sila and shore over there that side he stood. Grandfather 'ata 'spayi' kha'zugzugyila 'khi // ll. ho he'ha all wet dripping he arrived (home) So then ?i''tšinopa t^ho'ka·šila šo'ka⁹ospε e'nakiyε //
no more Grandfather broke horses he quit
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FREE TRANSLATION

1. So Grandfather had been to the store and was going home.

2. It had rained and flooded in the meantime. 3. So on his way home the bridge was washed out. 4. So he stopped on the bank, but the stream was flowing very deep. 5. So he stopped at the edge of the bridge abutment. 6. He came to a stop on the shore. 7. Just then some young men stopped on the other side. 8. So then the young men called out, "Hello, hello"; then Grandfather answered, "Hello", (and) just then his horse jumped ahead and landed in the creek with a big splash. 9. So then he went through the water and stood on the other shore. 10. Grandfather went home dripping wet. 11. So Grandfather quit breaking horses.