

036. TOM WASHES AWAY HIS NEPHEW'S LOW BIRTH

Dictated by Tom Sayachapis, November 18, 1913. Notebook XV: 5-7.

Tom gives a potlatch to elevate his nephew. Tom's first cousin (Johnny Yukum's mother) was dear to him. She married a commoner, and Tom was very angry, vowing he would never speak to her. When she got a child, he relented and went to give his first potlatch for the child in order to wash away its disgrace. This child was John Yukum's older brother.

36.1	hašiičīl̄si	ʔaniič	taṇanakšīl̄	ʔuwaatinʔakqas	ʔuucʔii
	hašiičīl̄ -si ₂	ʔaniič	taṇanakšīl̄	ʔuwa·tin -'ak -qa's	ʔuuc =ʔi·
	find out 1s ABS	that	give birth	relative POSS 1s.SUB	belong to REL
	I found out	that	she had a child	my relative	the one who belonged to

qaḷaatik	ṇooʔwis	ʔuḥuk	ṇuʔiiqsu	.
qaḷaatik	ṇuʔi·qsu	ʔuḥ -uk	ṇuʔi·qsu	.
younger brother	father	is POSS	father	
younger brother	father	hers was	father	

I heard that a relative of mine - her father was a younger brother of my father - had given birth to a child.

36.2	qux ^w aaʔaλ	ṇaḷuk ^w aλ	.
	qux -'aλ	ṇaḷuk -'aλ	.
	freeze NOW	cold NOW	
	it was freezing now	it was cold	

It was cold and freezing at the time.

36.3	haṭiisšīl̄si	.
	haṭiisšīl̄ -si ₂	.
	bathe 1s ABS	
	I started bathing	
	I started bathing.	

36.4	ʔuusimčšīl̄si	ʔaniis	ṇuššīl̄ʔaaqλ	.
	ʔuusimčšīl̄ -si ₂	ʔanis	ṇuššīl̄ -ʔaaqλ	.
	train for power 1s ABS	1s.SUB	distribute property INTENT	
	I trained for power	that I might	distribute wealth	

I trained for power that I might distribute wealth.

i.e., get wealthy so as to distribute.

36.5	q ^w isʔaλquu	q ^w eeʔiitq	ʔinksýi	hapsýuʔatqas	ʔuunuuλ
	q ^w is -'aλ -quu ₁	q ^w aa -ʔi·tq	ʔinksýi	hapsýuʔ -'at -qa's	ʔunwīiλ
	do thus NOW 3.CND	thus 3s.REL	stick	hair INAL 1s.SUB	because
	it would do thus	that which was like	sticks	my hair	because

qux ^w aa	.
qux ^w aa	.
be freezing	
it was freezing	

My hair would be like sticks because it was freezing.

36.6	ʔuusimčāλsi	ʔanis	ʔayiiyīpʔaaqλ	ḥawīḥmis	.
	ʔuusimč -'aλ -si ₂	ʔanis	ʔayiiyīp -ʔaaqλ	ḥawīḥmis	.
	do ritual training NOW 1s ABS	1s.SUB	obtain a lot INTENT	wealth	
	I trained	that I	would obtain a lot	wealth	

I trained that I might get much wealth.

36.7 ʔayiiʔapsi hawitmis .
 ʔayiiʔap -si₂ hawitmis
 make a lot 1s ABS wealth
 I produced a lot wealth
 I did produce a lot of wealth.

36.8 šiiluk^wałni ʔucačiʔał hiik^wis .
 šiiluk -²ał -ni ʔucačił -²ał hiik^wis
 move house NOW 1p.ABS go to NOW Equis
 we moved house to going to Equis
 Then we moved to Equis.

36.9 ẽuuc̣kał quuʔas ʔucačiʔał hiik^wis .
 ẽuuc̣k -²ał quuʔas ʔucačił -²ał hiik^wis
 all NOW person go to NOW Equis
 all of them now people they went to Equis
 All the people went to Equis then.

36.10 yaałsii waḥšiłit ʔuwaatinʔakqas ʔuunuuł ʔani
 yaał -si₂ waḥšił -(m)it ʔuwa-tin -²ak -qa's ʔunwiił ʔani
 although 1s ABS abandon former relative POSS 1s.SUB because that
 even though I had done abandoned my relative because that

masčimčinł suk^wiʔałsi ʔuwaatinʔakqas ʔucaʔapałsi
 masčimčinł suk^wił -²ał -si₂ ʔuwa-tin -²ak -qa's ʔucaʔap -²ał -si₂
 marry a commoner take NOW 1s ABS relative POSS 1s.SUB make s.o. go NOW 1s ABS
 she had married a commoner I now took her my relative made her go

maḥtiiʔakqas
 maḥtii -²ak -qa's
 house POSS 1s.SUB
 my house

Although I had abandoned my relative because she had married a common person, I now took her to my house.

36.11 hišinḳapałsi naʔaqakukʔi ʔiš čakupukʔi .
 hišink^w -²ap -²ał -si₂ naʔaqak -uk =ʔi· ʔiš čakup -uk =ʔi·
 together with CAUS NOW 1s ABS baby POSS DEF and husband POSS DEF
 I did so together with her child and her husband
 I took her together with her child and her husband.

36.12 wikýuusi łučnaakšił wiikp̣iicsi ʔiiq̣hii .
 wikýuu -si₂ łučnaakšił wiikp̣iic̣ -si₂ ʔiiq̣hii
 never 1s ABS get married bachelor 1s ABS still
 I had not yet got married I was a bachelor still
 I had not yet married (then), I was still a bachelor.

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36.13 hišimýuupałsi q^waḡaaʔakqas ʔuwaatin caq̣iic ʔiš hayu .
 hišimýuup -²ał -si₂ q^waḡa· -²ak -qa's ʔuwa-tin caq̣i·c ʔiš hayu
 gather NOW 1s ABS all POSS 1s.SUB relative twenty and ten
 I gathered together all of mine relatives twenty and ten
 I gathered together all my relatives, thirty of them.

36.14 ʔiiqʰuk^waλsi ʔanis suk^wiʔaλ naʔaqaqʔi ʔanis hawiiʔaλ
 ʔiiqʰuk -^ʔaλ -si₂ ʔanis suk^wiλ -^ʔaλ naʔaqaq =ʔi ʔanis hawiiλ -^ʔaλ
 tell NOW 1s ABS 1s.SUB take NOW baby DEF 1s.SUB finish NOW
 I told them that I accepted the baby that I finished

ʔišsuuqλ
 ʔišsuuqλ
 be angry
 being angry

I told them I accepted the child and that I had stopped being angry.

36.15 waaʔaλsi ʔuwaatinʔakqas , ʕuk^wiλʔaaqλaħ yaa naʔaqaqʔi
 waa -^ʔaλ -si₂ ʔuwa^ʔtin -^ʔak -qa:s ʕuk^wiλ -ʔaaqλ -(m)aħ yaa₁ naʔaqaq =ʔi
 say NOW 1s ABS relative POSS 1s.SUB wash INTENT 1s.IND that baby DEF
 I told them now my relatives I will wash that the baby

ʔani masčimʔak ʈuwiqsu
 ʔani masčim -^ʔak ʈuwiqsu
 that commoner POSS father
 since his is a commoner father

I told my relatives, 'I shall wash this baby, since his father is a commoner.'

36.16 nuuʔiλʔaaqλaħ nuuk , waaʔaλsi ʔuwaatinʔakqas
 nuuʔiλ -ʔaaqλ -(m)aħ nuuk waa -^ʔaλ -si₂ ʔuwa^ʔtin -^ʔak -qa:s
 start singing INTENT 1s.IND song say NOW 1s ABS relative POSS 1s.SUB
 I will start singing songs I said now my relatives

'I shall sing songs for my relatives.'

36.17 ʔaλʔiiħma yaqii nuuk waaʔaλsi
 ʔaλa -ʔi^w -ma yaq^w -(y)ii nuuk waa -^ʔaλ -si₂
 two ...songs 3.IND REL 3.INDF-REL song say NOW 1s ABS
 there are two which are songs I said now

'There are two of these songs', I said now.

36.18 ʕuu λuħmaa nuuʔiʔi , waaʔaλat
 ʕuu₁ λuħ -ma nuuʔiλ -^ʔi waa -^ʔaλ -^ʔat
 ok good 3.IND start singing 2s>3.IMPER say NOW PASS
 ok it is good start singing! they said now

ʕuučkhʔaλatsi ʔuwaatinʔakqas
 ʕuučk -(q)ħ₃ -^ʔaλ -^ʔat -si₂ ʔuwa^ʔtin -^ʔak -qa:s
 all BEING NOW PASS 1s ABS relative POSS 1s.SUB
 all of mine my relatives

'Very well, that's fine! sing!' said all of my relatives.

36.19 nuuʔiλsi
 nuuʔiλ -si₂
 start singing 1s ABS
 I started singing
 I sang.

36.20 || waanʔaahiiyii heeŋee ... haahooŋoo ʔaahiiyii ... hooŋoo ... hiiyeŋee ...
 wəŋəw kiinšuweeŋee heeneey kiinaayiya ʔaaqʔaʔeeŋee heeŋeeŋeeʔ hawiiŋiiħ ... wəŋəw
 chief

ʔoowaʔeeyaaλs heeħaana ... ||.

hwanga hiyi hange ... ha hongo ahiyi ... hongo ... hiyenge ... wongo hinshowenge henyey kinayya . I drop straight down wealthy from time to time. I have obtained the Quartz Being.

This is a typical 'potlatch song' of the Tsishaath Indians. The bulk of such a song is burden and the significant words are greatly changed by the introduction of meaningless syllables right into the body of them. As this song was not taken down on the phonograph, it was practically impossible to note every recurrence of burden syllables. The rows of dots indicate that such syllables are repeated from among the burden syllables that precede. This rule applies to other song texts in this volume. The first two lines of the song are burden; the third line is not in Nootka but is in either Kwakiutl or some Coast Salish dialect, doubtless very much garbled, as usual; the significant words of the song are in the last two lines, corresponding to the prose forms: ta'qʷaʷa'ah hawit ʷo'walaʷh hi'na. A Tsishaath wealth display song.

36.21 ta'qʷaʷa'ah hawit ʷu'walaʷh hiina .
 ta'qʷaʷa'ah -(m)a'h hawit ʷu'walaʷ -(m)a'h hiina
 drop straight down 1s.IND be wealthy find 1s.IND Quartz Being
 I always drop straight down being wealthy I have found Quartz Being
 I always drop straight down, chief, I have found a Quartz Being.

36.22 huuyaaʷa'paʷalsi naʷaqakʷi .
 huuyaaʷa'ap -'aʷ -si₂ naʷaqak =ʷi
 make s.o. dance NOW 1s ABS baby DEF
 I had it dance now the baby
 I had the baby dance.

I.e., someone danced in place of the child.

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36.23 ʷukʷiʷaʷalsi ʷaaʷʷiiʷiʷaʷalsi ʷayeʷi quuʷas .
 ʷukʷiʷ -'aʷ -si₂ ʷaaʷʷiiʷiʷ -'aʷ -si₂ ʷaya =ʷi quuʷas
 wash NOW 1s ABS give potlatch gifts NOW 1s ABS many DEF person
 I washed him I gave potlatch gifts to the many people
 I washed him (by) giving potlatch gifts to the many people.

36.24 muuʷʷiiʷʷuksu puu ʷaʷaʷak .
 muu -ʷiʷ¹ -uk -si₂ puu ʷaʷaʷakʷ
 four ... long objects POSS 1s ABS gun potlatch gift
 I had four guns potlatch gift
 I had four guns for potlatch gifts.

36.25 ʷaaʷʷaʷayaʷalsi ʷisaʷ qʷaʷaʷneeʷitq quuʷas .
 CVʷdup- ʷawaʷ -ayi -'aʷ -si₂ ʷisaʷ qʷaʷaʷnaʷ -ʷiʷtq quuʷas
 REP one give NOW 1s ABS blanket thus many 3s.REL person
 I gave one to each blanket as many as there were people
 I gave one blanket to each of the many people.

36.26 hawiiʷalsi ʷaaʷʷaʷaya .
 hawiiʷ -si₂ ʷaaʷʷaʷaya
 finish 1s ABS giving a potlatch
 I finished giving a potlatch
 I finished potlatching.

36.27 ʷaʷʷiiʷma ʷah nuukʷii , waaʷaʷalsi ʷayeʷi quuʷas .
 ʷaʷaʷ -ʷiʷ¹ -maʷ ʷah nuuk =ʷi waaʷ -'aʷ -si₂ ʷaya =ʷi quuʷas
 two ...songs 3.IND this song DEF say NOW 1s ABS many DEF person
 here are two songs this songs I said now to the many people
 Then I told the many people, 'Here are two songs.'

36.28	waḥšiḷitaḥ		ʔaḥkuu	ʔuwaatinʔakqas		ḥuucsma	ʔuunuuḷ	ʔani
	waḥšiḷ	-(m)it	ʔaḥkuu	ʔuwa·tin -ʔak	-qa·s	ḥuucsma	ʔunwiiḷ	ʔani
	abandon	former	this	relative	POSS 1s.SUB	woman	because	that
	I abandoned her		this	my relative		woman	because	that

masčimčinḷqa
masčimčinḷ -qa·
marry a commoner 3.SUB
she married a commoner

I abandoned this kinswoman because she married a commoner.

36.29	ʔunaaksapaḷaḥ		ʔaḷp̄iiḥʔi		nuuk	.
	ʔunaaksap	-ʔaḷ	ʔaḷa	-p̄i·ḥ ^w ₂	=ʔi·	nuuk
	provide with	NOW	two	...songs	DEF	song
	I now provide him with		the two			songs

I now give (the child) the two songs.

36.30	yaq ^w aahitii		taayii		yuukum	.	
	yaq ^w	-uk	-ʔaḥ	-(m)it	-(y)ii	taayii	yuukum
	REL	POSS	IRR	former	3.INDF-REL	older brother	Yuukum
	he who would be		older brother			older brother	Yuukum

(This child) who would be the older brother of Yuukum.

But had died.