

YIXGITSIY DRANH ITLTSENH DONG

How Raven Made Light

Chapman II.5a, 109-115

The storyteller is not named.

Qay xuchux xudhi'onh tr'in'ne. Dina long ts'in'  
 Village big there was they say. People many being

qay xuchux. Tr'igazriit'ix tr'in'ne. Niq'olonh getiy  
 village was big. One who would they say. Woman very  
 not marry

ngizrenh. Vito' getiy qusqa ngilanh tr'in'ne. Vittha'  
 pretty. Her very rich was they say. His  
 father man daughter

anh tr'igidiit'ix. Qay xut'an yixudz chiliqay  
 she did not want to Village people all young men  
 marry.

xiyiq'a nixutiidax. Giluxdong'ye tritr xonxidiidil yix  
 tried to get her. Some of them wood brought house

xodixsin nixiyidilayh. Eyigginh tr'igidiit'ighinh  
 upon they put it. She one who would not marry

tthititl'iggok. "Gan lay iy dixal'anh?" yilne.  
 ran out. "What for this do they do?" she said.

Tthiyitingil. Xudon'idiyo. Chiliqay yixudz<sup>v</sup> itatlchil  
 She threw it out. She went back Young men all I will take her  
 in.

q'at sidenagh itatlchil q'at nixighilniyh<sup>~</sup> ine' viyan'.  
 wanting I myself will take wanting they tried but no.  
 her

Eyiggin giluxdong'ye tidhi'on yil xiyito' oxo  
 Those some of them fish trap also her for  
 father

tigathdlo ine' daline' viyan'. Eyiggi qay xut'an  
 they set it but even so no. Those village people

"Dodo anh," xaine. "Ngo getiy anh vitr'inithinek,"  
 "Enough her," said. "Well really her we cannot get,"

xiyilne. Xidigal giyenh ni q'oldalin xighilzrek  
 they said Finally other women they took  
 of her.

tr'ighonxidēt'ix̃ ine'i. Yitots'in' gidegh qay xut'an  
 they were not favored although. And then elsewhere village people

che xiyōqo ntithidil̃ ine'i viyan'. Tr'ixuzro giluxdong'ye  
 also came for her but no. Indeed some of them

ghinoy oqo xitidil̃ ine'i viyan'. Xidigal̃<sup>v</sup> qay xut'an  
 caribou for went but no. Finally village people

ałixi<sup>v</sup> xixudighenek.~ "Dodo," xiyil̃ne ts'in'. Yixudz<sup>v</sup>  
 all quit. "Enough," they said of her. Then

qaytux xut'an<sup>^</sup> xiyōqo ntithidil̃ ine'i enedz qay xuyil̃  
 villages people came for her but upriver villages and

dodz qay xuyil̃ "Sidenagh itatlchil̃ q'at," xiyil̃ne ts'in'  
 down-villages also "I myself will take wanting," they said  
 river her  
 ine' viyan'. Axaxildik "Dodo," xal̃ne.~  
 but no. And then "Enough," they said.

Ngiyiggi xildi traltth'et Yixgitsiy dina athdlat.~  
 Inside now kashim Raven man became.

Ixuxuyil̃ xuyodititl̃-'an' anh Yixgitsiy. Ghilghatl̃ ts'in'  
 And he began to think that Raven. As it was dark

tthidangith hingith̃ vil̃neitel̃ ts'in'.~ Xuyodil̃'anh ts'in'  
 all night long he didn't sleep. He was thinking,

"Dingit'a sidedig vinidhistoghinh," inedhinh. Yitongo  
 "Better I too will try for her," he thought. Meanwhile

sighilde'on' hingo~ go~ dixit'anh. Axaxildik tthitadhiyo.  
 it was dark while here they did. And then he went out.

Yitots'in' tadhiyo sighilt'ogh sighildełtl'itth ts'in'  
 Then he went it was dusk it got pitch dark as

ine'i. No'oy qul dołt'ol yil̃ sighilde'on' ts'ixuyan'  
 though. Sun was not moon also it got dark really

ine'i ghihoł. Xugh'enitlniq tux not'ux ts'ixuyil̃ dina  
 but he went. He was tired when he flew and then man

andilayh ts'ixuyil̃. Vits'in imo tux dina andilayh.  
 he became too. His wings hurt when man he became.

Dina<sup>v</sup> andilayh<sup>v</sup> vits'in~ yil̃ imo tux not'ux. Xidigal̃  
 Man he became his wings also hurt when he flew. Finally

viyil̃ xutitl'i'an' antr'a yititl̃qon' xuq'i. Yitots'in'  
 with him it got light as if it would dawn like. Then

xidigal antr'a dran xuli'an' ts'in'. Ixuxuyil qay  
finally as if day it became then. And then village

xuchux xuitthonh. Not'ux xuyil dina longhdi xelanh  
big he saw. He flew and people many are

ts'in'. Axaxildik dina anthilat. Qay nilggudz yi'in  
being. And then man he became again. Village near out from

tadhiyo qay xuts'in'. Dinatux neyo ine'i xeyantr'ixuneg  
he went village to. Among men he went but they didn't  
notice him

dina longh dixo'in. Eyiggi qay xut'an xiyinedhin ts'in'.  
people many due to. Those village people didn't think of him.

Ngi'o yitongo traitth'et xuchux xelanh. Yit xu'osin  
Out meanwhile kashim big there was. There beside it  
there

che yix xuchux xelanh. Xodigg che tritr xondighe'o.  
also house big there was. Above also stick was set up,

Viche niltareth nigighun yil xithichith antr'a  
its end wolferine wolf also are tied as  
(skin) (skin)

viyil xidetr'iyh. Inedhinh Yixgitsiy "Tr'igidilt'ighin  
it was flapping in Thought Raven "The one who does not want  
the wind. to marry

xiviyix xuyan' ngo dadz dixet'a," inedhinh. Xivigho'ot  
their only thus are," he thought. Next to it  
houses

nilggudzdi nineyo. Diggandixadhit xunil'anh ts'in'  
near he went. He stood up looking

ytots'in' tthantr'ididil yix xuts'in' longhin  
and then people came out house from many

nixonik ts'in'. Niq'olonh yil tthighiho. Niq'olonh  
working. A woman also came out. Woman

xut'a ngizrenh te oqo tadhiyo ts'in' gitsighath  
very pretty water for went and marten-skin

da' yan' yet. Vanhtony nigighun getiy vigho' dengath.  
parka only in. Ruff wolf really its fur was long.

"Agide! Anh tr'igidilt'ighinh," inedhinh. "Dingit'a"  
"Well! She is the one who does he thought. "Better  
not want to marry,"

ndadz dughutlaghinh," inedhinh. Yitongo ngitthing  
thus I will act," he thought. Meanwhile below

tthitadhiyo niq'olonh te oqo. Eyiggi xiviyix xudoy  
she went out the woman water for. That their doorway  
house

tl'ux tal nighech'it. Ngitthing~ vith t'ogh xunighul'i  
grass mat was hanging. Down bank base out of sight

gheyo eyigginh niq'olonh. Yitongo xudoy non'iliggok  
she that woman. Meanwhile doorway he ran back in  
went

ts'ivi'il athdlat. Yitots'in' tl'ux tal~nidigheghul  
spruce he became. Then grass mat he fell into  
needle

ts'ivi'il ngilanh ts'in'. Yit yixudz dingit'a ixuxuyil  
spruce needle being. There completely he did and then

xudoy non'idiyo niq'olonh te ghilal ts'in'. Tritr tingil  
doorway she went back woman water carrying. Wooden bucket

yozr yil yaits'in ghiqol. Yadz gititlcheth~ ixuxuyil  
little with other side she carries. Open she is about when

te ye gigheghul iy ts'ivi'il. Yiyil te ye ghilil  
water in he fell that spruce With him water in floating  
to push (mat)  
needle.

diyix non'idiyo. "Te tasinel," ne. Te tithinen'  
her she went back "Water I'll drink," she Water she started to  
house in. said. drink  
ixuyil gititl'iniq iy ts'ivi'il. "Inga," ne. "Sidhagg  
and then she swallowed that spruce needle. "Ouch," she said. "My throat

yiggi imo'!" ne. "Gidingidz yil gitaginiq," ne.  
inside it hurts!" she "Grass I swallowed," she said.  
said.

Vonh yilne, "Divasre~ viye xuningil'anh?" ne.  
Her said to "I wonder in it did you look?" she said.  
mother her

"Gide hey'?" yilne.  
"Is it bad?" she said to her.

"Ngo viyan'," yilne. "Gidingidz k'idz viyan'~ iy,"  
"Well, no," she said. "Grass little only that,"

yilne. Yitvenhda' xuyil yitlqon' dingonh oqo xinayh  
she said. The next day then at dawn her mother for she called

tr'in'ne. "Na'aa," yilne, "Ndadz dist'a?" yilne.  
they say. "Mama," she said, "How am I?" she said to her.

"Sivit getiy~ ngichox ts'idighinel'," yilne. "Ndadz xo'in?"  
"My belly really big is becoming," she said. "How come?"

yilne.  
she said to her.

Vonh, "Imo xut'a," yilne.  
Her "Sickness perhaps," she said to her.  
mother

"Ngo viyan' ine'i sivit ngichox," yilne.  
"Well no but my belly is big," she said to her.

Yitvenhda' chenh dingonh oqo xinayh. "Na'aa,"  
Next day also her mother for she called. "Mama,"

yilne tr'in'ne. "Godeg sivit antr'a legg yozr  
she said they say. "Right here my belly like fish little

nixudilighuʔ," yilne. "Gila' go sivit inondelniyh,"  
it moves," she said. "Here here my belly feel,"

yilne.  
she said to her.

Yitots'in' yivit inondititl'inek. "Siyotr'a!"  
And then her belly she felt. "My daughter!"

yilne. "Ndadz dengit'a?" yilne. "Ayiggi lo~ sraqay  
she said. "How are you like she said. "This indeed child  
this?"

dinaghun' ts'in' xuq'i dengit'a," yilne. Yinaljit.  
to us is it like you are," she said. She was afraid.

"Ngo chiliqay ngighun' quldi ndadz dengit'a ts'in'?"  
"Well men to you are not how are you this way?"

yilne. "Ngo niq'oidalin xiviqing' xelanhtux xizro  
she said. "Well women their husbands are when only

ots'in dixet'a," yilne. Yinaljit ts'in' vonh.  
like this they are," she said. She was afraid her mother.

"Ndadz ixan ditet'al?" yilne. Yitots'in' yivit  
"How what will you do?" she said. And then her belly

inondalniyh tux sraqay nixudaltax. "Agide sraqay dadz~  
she felt when child moved about. "Oh child thus

dengit'a," yilne. Nit'ux~ xuyil viye imo xutathdla'.  
you are so," she said. Soon then in her pain began.

Vonh yil xildik yiyil xinayh, "Ngo sraqay yil  
Her mother with then with her spoke, "Well child with

dangilighozr qul ine'i dengit'a," yilne. Ixuxuyil  
you played not but you're this she said. And then  
way,"

xildik xethdlanh eyigginh tr'ixuneganh chel ngilanh.  
then was born that baby boy it is.

Antr'a anh~ Yixgitsiy yozr xuq'i. Tonxiyitltanh.  
Like that Raven little it's like. They washed it.

Da' neg xiyindighelo. Yitots'in' xuniłggats vinayed  
Parka pretty they put on him. And then he stared his eyes

chux xelanh ts'in'. Ediniłchen xunił'anh. Xuyił vitsiy  
big being. All around he looked. Then his grand-  
father

yighoned vits'in' xuli'an doghide'onh.  
behind brightness was hanging.

Vitsiy vitse~ xiyinitlyonh. Viłxinełtel~ ts'in'.

His grand- his grand- raised him. They didn't sleep.

father mother

Ghinox q'ux yan' xiyiłonh ts'in'. Ało ine' tr'gidil'tighinh  
Caribou fat only they fed him. And also the one who would

veghaye yił vodaye yił long xiyinitlyonh^ eyigginh. not marry  
her brothers and her too many raised him that

sisters

Yixgitsiy k'idz. Q'utithiggisr xidigał q'utithiyo ixuxuyił  
Raven little. He began to finally he began to and then

tathtrax ts'ixuyan' eyigginh tr'ixuneganh. "Ndadz din'ne  
he began only that child. "How does he  
to cry say

anh itrighinh?" yiłne vitsiy. Vits'iyda'onin yił  
that one who cries?" said his grand- His relatives also

father.

yixudz xiyiłne. "Imo athdlat xut'a anh," xalne~ tr'in'ne.  
all said of him. "Sick he became maybe that one," they they say.

Idughutux~ xuli'an' ts'in' dititl'inek. "Iy xut'a q'at^  
Sometimes brightness~ he reached for. "That perhaps wanting

din'ne," xalne.~ "Gila' vighun' ninux'oyh," xalne.~  
he says they sayd. "Okay by him put (it)," they said.  
that,"

"Ngo yenił'eł," xalne.~ Yitots'in' xiyiłchet  
"Well he'll see it," they So then they took it  
said.

xiyitl'oyighe'onh ts'in'. Nidango totrix di. Xidigał  
and they gave it to him. So he would Finally

stop crying.

ethchox xuchux yitots'in' xiyitl'oyi'oyh iy. Idughutux~  
he got big and then they gave it to that. Sometimes

big che nginet ninxiyighe'ok. Xidigał ngi'egh che q'utithiyo.  
also in back they put it. Finally outside also he began to  
walk around.

Xudon'idoyh tux xut'a itrix eyi q'at. Yitots'in'  
He came back when how he cried that wanting. So then

xiyitl'oniyi'oyh. Ethchox~ yan' ine' yiq'a~ itrix.  
they gave it to him. He got big even though wanting he cried.  
it

"Gili sidhan dhuxl'onh iy," yilne. "Viti'el uxltse ts'in',  
"Okay, my neck put it that," he said. "Its string make and

go sidrogg to'ol," yilne. Xiyidhan niyine'onh yitots'in'  
here my chest it will he said. They hung it around his and then  
hang," neck

vidrogg yidhi'onh. Yiye tthitadhiyo. Yitots'in' ngingugg  
his chest he wore it. In it he went out. And then back

xutux~ tr'itltux iliggok. "Divasre~ sinxalnix da'v xudanh  
in the among he ran. "I wonder if they forget me where is he  
woods willows

sixidithne ts'in' da'," inedhinh. Ninet'uq eyiggi chux  
they never tell me," he thought. He flew that big

xuli'an' ts'in' eyiggiy~ yiyil diqay xuts'in' enitht'uq.  
brightness that with his own to he flew.  
village

Xugh'enitlniq tux che not'ux yitots'in' vits'in imotux  
When he got tired also he flew and then his wings when hurt

ghihol yitots'in' xidigal che diqay ni'idiyo.  
he kept and then finally again his own he came back.  
walking village

Gogide'v xuts'in'v nixunili'on'.  
Well to there is the end.

Yuk. v

## How Raven Brought Light

Note: This story appears to incorporate episodes from two well known Raven stories, Raven's attempt to marry an unwilling bride by trickery, and his theft of light from a chief who was keeping the sun (and in many accounts the moon and stars as well) in his house. The narrator's transition from the beginning of the former episode into the latter is interesting; note the mention of the absence of sun and moon while Raven is flying to the other village. Traditional storytellers often combine and juxtapose favorite stories in this way.

There was a big village. There were many people in the village. One of them was unwilling to marry, they say. She was a very pretty woman. Her father was a very rich man. His daughter did not want to marry. All the young men in the village tried to get her. Some of them brought firewood and put it by her house. The woman who did not want to marry ran out. "What are they doing this for?" she said. She threw it out. She went back in. All the young men wanted to get her for themselves, but in vain.

Some of them then made a fishtrap for her father and set it, but still she refused. The village people said, "That's enough of her. We can't get her to marry at all." Finally they took other brides, though these were not their first choices. Then people from other villages came for her, but to no avail. Some of them went hunting for caribou for her, but in vain. Finally the people of all the villages gave up. "Enough," they said. People from the villages upriver, and people from the villages downriver came for her, saying, "I'll take her for myself," but in vain. And then they too said, "Enough."

Now inside his kashim sat Raven, in the form of a man. And he began to think, that Raven. All night long, while it was dark, he did not sleep. He was thinking. "I too should try to get her," he thought. It was dark at that time. Then he went out. It was dusk when he went out, and then it got pitch dark. There was no sun then, nor any moon, so it got really dark, but he went anyway. When he was tired of flying, he became a man again. When his wings hurt, he became a man. Finally it became light, as if the dawn would break. Then it became like day. And then he saw a big village. As he flew, he saw many people. And then he became a man again. He went near the village. He went among the people, but they didn't notice

him, since there were so many people. The people of the village didn't remark him. Now out there there was a big kashim. There beside it was a big house. Above it a stick was set up with a wolverine skin on the end of it, tied there and flapping in the wind. Raven thought, "Only the houses of those who do not wish to marry are marked in this way." He went over next to it. He stood there looking, and then a lot of people passed out of the house, doing their chores. A woman came out too. This very pretty woman was going for water, wearing a marten-skin parka. It had a wolf ruff with very long fur. "Well! She is the one who does not want to marry," he thought. "I ought to do this," he thought. Meanwhile, the woman went down for water. There was a grass mat hanging in the doorway of the house. The woman went down the bank and out of sight. Thereupon Raven ran into the doorway and became a spruce needle. He fell into the grass mat in the form of a spruce needle. As soon as he did that, the woman came back through the doorway carrying the water. She carried it in a little wooden bucket. As she pushed the mat aside, Raven fell into the water as a spruce needle. With him floating in the water, she went back into the house. "I'll drink some water," she said. She started to take a drink of the water, and then she swallowed that spruce needle. "Ouch!" she said. "Something hurt my throat! I swallowed a piece of grass."

Her mother said to her, "Did you look in it? Is it bad?"

"Well, no," she said. "It was only a little bit of grass." The next day at dawn, she called for her mother. "Mama," she said, "what's wrong with me? My belly is getting really big. How come?"

Her mother said to her, "Perhaps it is sickness."

"Well, no, but my belly is really big," she said.

The next day she called for her mother again. "Mama," she said, "right here in my belly something is moving like a little fish. Here, feel my belly!"

So the mother felt her daughter's belly. "My daughter!" she said. "How did you get like this? It seems that you are going to have a child." She was afraid. "No man have been with you, so how did you get this way? Women only get like this when they have husbands," she said. The mother was afraid.

"What will you do?" she said. And when she felt of her belly, the child moved around. "Oh, you are going to have a baby," she said. Soon her labor pains began. Her mother then said to her, "Well, even though you didn't play around with any boys, you got like this." And then the baby was born; it was a boy. And it was just like a little Raven. They washed it. They put a pretty parka on it. And then he stared around-- his eyes were big. All around he looked. And there behind his grandfather was a bright thing hanging up.

His grandfather and grandmother raised him. They didn't sleep. They fed him on caribou fat. And the woman who would not marry, and her brothers and sisters, also cared for him, that little Raven. He began to crawl around, then he began to walk, and then he began to do nothing but cry, that child. "What is he saying, the one who cries?" said his grandfather. His relatives all talked about him. "Maybe he has gotten sick," they said. Sometimes he reached for the bright thing. "Maybe he wants that," they said. "Okay, put it by him," they said. "Then he can see it well," they said. So they took it and gave it to him, so he would stop crying. Eventually he got quite big, and they gave it to him. Sometimes they hung it back up in the back of the house. Finally he began to walk around outside. When he came back in, he cried, wanting it. So then they gave it to him. Even though he had become big, he cried for it. "Put it around my neck," he said. "Put a string on it and hang it here on my chest," he said. So they hung it on a string around his neck, and he wore it on his chest. He went out wearing it. And then he ran into the woods, back among the willows. "I wonder if they have forgotten me--they don't ask where I am," he thought. He flew away with that big bright thing, he flew back to his own village. When he got tired of flying, he walked, and in that way he finally got back to his own village.

And that is the end of the story.