

SHAAX shaax TIMNANAXT  
(Very scary stories)

Virginia Beavert

Halloween Time

L ch'ach'ama

Mii'mi pa-nishaa'tuna na'pu iwinsh ay'atin ts'aapa Wa'xw l a l a-pa.

Naxsh-pa sts'atpa pa-tkw'a'tux-shana taw'nknik anaku' pa'-wiyawaaw-shana pa'chu' imish-nan.

Kuuk iwacha paayu sts'aa't sts'a't. Chaw iwacha k'wiit a'l'xayx, ku tu'x i n iwacha chmuk.

Sha'at pa-wiya'tya-shana misa-misa timnanaxt-ki. Awkunik pa-latkw'anina kaasmi-paynk ishchit-pa. Ku kuuk pa-yik-na: "Ah! tunim-na itwana-shamsh, nch'iki i-wiya-watiksha." Ayatin pa-shapni-ya, "Mish nam ikuunak ayk-sha?" Pa-katut-ya, ku watiksh akatutya. Pa-tkw'angatya ku anach'axi, pa-yikna watikt-yaw. Ku anach'axi pa-tkw'angat-ya. ku pa-yik-na anach'axi i-tkw'ana'ti-shamsh.

I-winsh i'ina ayat-nan, awnash a-shapnita, "Shin nam wa? Kuush a-wanpi-ta, Mish nam tkw'angat-wii-ta?" Kush awku, iwinsh i-tkw'atuxa ana-kwnak ipxwi-shana iwata anashiyiin pa-tkw'atinxa. Wiyat'ish ilmayna iwinsh, ku tiknik'a ayatnan pa-payshnuu-na, tun k'aayx, plaash i-wiyakwitka. Ayat i-pxina, "Chaw awa plash taatpas inmi iwinsh-mi ikw'ak-xash iwa kw'ink tunx tiin." Chaw pa-samxnana, ku tinik'a hawlaak ałmayna.

Awku iwinsh i-tux-nuu-na ayat, ku i'ina, "Chaw nash shiin a-wiyax-sh." Ayat-in pa-ina: "Shin awku ikw'ak i-wacha ichna, plash taatpasyi." I winsh i-natxana, "Chaw nash shiin ak'inushana plash taatpasyi." Kuuk awku pa-wiyaych'u-na. Ku kitu patkw'angatya. Kushxi awku pa-yikna kitu a-tkw'atya kw'ink ana-tuy'in pa-tkw'a-twana-sha.

Kuuk awku pa-shukwaana, tunx iwa tun. Ku payu pa-wiyaych'u-na, ku iwinsh'in k'waat pa-wiya-winpa ipapa ayat-nan ku pa-wayxt-ya kitu. Awku pa-twapat-ya kuunik chaawiyat ts'aapak'a iniit-yaw.

Kwnak inishaatuna iniit-pa nch'i-ttawaxt ayat. Pa-shapniya, "Mish pam txana-sha?"

Pima-tamuna, mish tuy'in pa-twaptuxa. Nch'i-ayat-in pa-tamuna: "Miimi, anakuu uyt ichi kaasmi ishchit pa-ani-ya, ilax tiinmaman pa-wiik'isk-a kaas-in. Ikwmak ixwi pa-wiyaninxä."

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TRANSLATION  
Virginia Beavert

Halloween Story

A long time ago, two people, a man and a woman, lived close to Toppenish. One night they were walking home and laughing at a funny story. It was a very dark night there was no moon and the sky was black.

While walking along the railroad track they suddenly heard something walking (stepping) loudly. She asked him, "Do you hear that?" They stopped awhile. Walked again, listened. Nothing! And again they walked, and they heard it walking towards them.

The man told the woman, "I am going to go ask him, 'who are you?' and I will ask him, 'Do you want to walk with us?'" Then, the man walked back where he thought he would be, whoever is following them around. And the man was gone for a long time, and then something white and white appeared to the woman. "My husband does not have a white shirt, that must be that different person," the woman thought. Suddenly, it faded out into nothing.

When the man came back to the woman, he said: "I did not find anyone." The man said: "The woman told him: 'Then who is that walking around in a white shirt?'" That's when they began to walk a little faster. They heard the footsteps of, whoever was following them, walk faster. They became more frightened, and the man held fast to the woman's hand and they ran fast. Then it chased them almost to the house.

In the house there lived an elderly woman. She asked them, "Whats the matter?" They told their story about how something chased them home. The elderly woman told them: "A long time ago, when they first built the railroad tracks, many Indian people were run over by the train. It is they, who are still walking around."

Instructor's comment: When I was young, my great, grand aunt, who lived in that house in this story, always warned me not to walk home alone at night from town on that railroad track. She said that some bad people murdered Indians by knocking them unconscious or by getting them drunk and laying them on the tracks to get run over. Many Indian people were killed by the train on that railroad track.

NOVEMBER 7.

ASSIGNMENT For advanced students. TO HAND-IN MONDAY,

Translate word for word the story written in Sahaptin and find out how many nouns, pronouns, adjectives, adverbs and verbs you are able to identify from this story. You have a copy of the dictionary and your personal collection of words from this class. Use them.