

Snakes and Ospreys

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1977

FT Àpc wáhte nèqt yèt ìhík, *Tomah Stream*, nìt ntotoli-pqonhikéwan ìyá, not=òlu *Milligan*.
Kõmiwonõkískot, ma=te ntulukhotihpòn. Àpc=õtahk *strawol=òte* yùt põmaqèy íywol *on the*
ground, naka yèy *lean-to*.

[Then one time over by Tomah Stream, we were peeling bark for that Milligan guy. It was rainy weather, so we weren't working. And there was straw piled up there on the ground, and this lean-to.]

SG (inaudible)

FT Nìt=te olõqiptinéssu Sõkás nìt olõqìw. Nìt=te nekòm lóssin, yùt nìl. Sõláhki yùt=te wèn sakhi-ksáhat, sehpal *Raymond* kósõna=al wèn. Ítom, “Mena...” Ítom, “Ìpà menakàc qolõpàp.”
Eli- nìt -qolõpapi, kinalõkíttis nìt=al athusòss, nìt=al 'qonatqe... 'qonatqenusínon.
Kinalõkittiyéna, 'qasqalõkittiyatqenusínon. Nìt=al 'tutatõkósin.

[Cigars (Philip Sockabasin) had his hand stretched out over here. He was lying there, and I was here. All of a sudden, someone came in—it must have been Raymond (Tomah), or someone. He said, “Slow...” He said, “Listen, look turn around slow and look.” As I looked turned and looked

that way, what the devil! There was a snake, stretched out about that long. Holy smokes! It was stretching out longer and longer. It was about that big around.]

SG Yá?

[Yeah?]

FT Nìt 'tapqatökósin.

[It was stretching out there.]

SG Elápömosk?

[Was it looking at you?]

FT Ahà. Tétpi=te npokossinùpon ìhík...

[Yes. We both crashed at the same time, uh...]

SG Khákönok.

[On the door.]

FT ...Khákönok. Ntahtöli-nuciyanèn.

[...On the door. We kept on trying to get through.]

SG Kilüwàw Sökás?

[You and Cigars?]

FT Ahà.

[Yes.]

SG ...Tèmõnu knutalõkittiyépa.

[Then finally you got the hell out of there.]

FT Níta, ma=te nkotqonihtuwõnewìn *that night*. Ntihinéhpon atõmúpil. E, nuckuwiyanèn. Ay, gee, ma=te=na nkotqonihtuwõnewìn níta. Athusossuwíhke, *you know*, nít.

[Yes. Well, we didn't stay there that night. I had a car. Eh, we came back here. Well, gee, so we didn't stay the night there. It was infested with snakes, you know, that place.]

SG Nít=õlu tàn nekèt etõlúhkiyoq, íhík *Tomah Stream*. U yá, nít yá isõmeqèhs knatsakihtūwan wosòss. (*laughs*)

[Then how about that time when we were working on Tomah Stream. Yeah, and we went to see that osprey's nest.]

FT Nít nít *climb a tree* nít=al *twenty feet* qõnéyu. Nít=al 'tutalõkittiyáqson *yellow birch*, ma=te *no limbs*=te=na. Ma=te *limbs* yalõkittiyéwĩil.

[Climb a tree there about twenty feet high. It was about this damn big around, a yellow birch, but with no limbs. It didn't have any damn limbs.]

SG *It was right, right, right on the flowage. Yeah, back track.*

FT *Yeah. Ntahasíhpon we was goin' to yèy, kmosönnánnuk ÿyík, isömeqehsísok.*

[Yeah. I thought we were going to, you know, get those little ospreys.]

SG Ahà.

[Yes.]

FT Wáht petatüwì nìt *nest* éyik. Kinalökittiyéna. Yüt=te=hc etatalökittiyéssit noniyákönok.

Àpc=oc níta. Nmatalökittiyénkun.

[I climbed way up to where the nest was. Holy smokes. Here came the damn thing flying right at my head. And then again. It was walloping me.]

SG *I know it. I was havin' a hell of a good time down below.*

FT *Well, I didn't care. Ma=te=hc nìl...*

[Well, I didn't care. I wasn't going to...]

SG *Well, nìt=al "Kil nìt elökimīyin!" —Fourth of July nìt nekèt.*

[Well, then it was, "You told me to do it!" —It was the Fourth of July then.]

FT Ahà yá.

[Yes it was.]

SG *We was coming, nuckuwiya`pon, nuckuwiya`pon nekèt Tomah Stream, wàht Princeton, naka Fourth of July. Èlüwe ksiktoliqehtuhúkun, ínit?*

[We came down to Tomah Stream at that time, from up in Princeton, and it was the Fourth of July. And (that bird) almost killed you, didn't it?]