The Two Sons

Told by Dickie Moss, October 13, 2003

Teexco’ hinen he’ihniisnino hiih’oho.
long ago man they were two his sons

Ceese’ he’ihnisih’oxonee, ceese’ he’ihnoo kokoxonee.
one he had brown skin one he had white skin

wohei he said to them these his sons you will go hunting

Tooneniito’no’ookeit, heetnibiino’ no’oteihiiit.
whoever brings back meat first I will give it to him power

Neini’iice3oono bih’ihiinoseino’ nisicehiiinoseino’
the ones I like the taste of deer meat antelope meat

Hiwoxuuhuunoseino’ hinениhiinoseino’.
elk meat moose meat

Niini’iicetowoow. I like the taste of those

Heetniinoo’einee.
you will go hunting

Tooniito’no’ookeit, heetnibiino’ no’oteihiiit.”
whoever brings back meat first I will give it to him power

Wohei ne’neenou3i’ nahu’ honoh’oho’.
wohei then they got prepared these young men

Heetniinoo’ei3i’.
they are going to go hunting

Hei’iise’enou3i’, ne’ce3ei’oo3i’.
once they were ready then they set off

Wohei nehe’ nonookoxoneet, hihcebee hini’iit hiyeih’inoo
wohei this he has white skin nearby this their home
he’ihno’oohoe biixokho’nou‘u.
he slaughtered them goats

wohei neneenini3i hoseinou‘u ce’no’xotonoot hiniisonoon.
wohei that was it the meats he brought back for him his father

“wohei niiyou nuhu’ hoseinou‘u.”
wohei here it is these meats

“‘ee heeteehek none’oteiht,” hee3oohok hihi’o.
well so you’re the one he is powerful he said to him his son

wohei ne’neneenini3 beniinoot,; tou3e’einoot nuhu’ no’otehiit.
wohei then to him he is giving it to him he bestowed on him this power

wohei hi’in ceese’ ne’no’ookeit.
wohei that other one then he brought back meat

“wohei niiyou neixoo hoseinou‘u heesnoo3oono.
wohei here it is father meats the ones you’re hungry for

beebei’on nee’eetiinoo’einoo.
far away that’s where I hunted

‘oh neeseh’e nih’iiisehtonihein.
but my older brother he has tricked you

huut hiiccebee hotoni‘in, biixohko’u u noo’oohoot.
here nearby our domestic animals goats he slaughtered them

neneenini’i hi’in hoseinou‘u heihno’oxotoneiit.”
that is it those meats the ones he brought to you

“‘oohoohei’i, hii3oobein! heniisehtoniheinoo.
oh my! you are correct he has tricked me

‘oh hiikoot woow henisibiino’ no’otehiit.”
but also now I have given it to him power

“wohei.” hee3oohok hihi’o,
wohei he said to him his son

“heetou3e’eine3en he’ii3ou‘u ceebe’eini’oo’,” hee3oohok.
I will bestow on you something it is better he said to him

“nuhu’ hiihoo3itoo, hoo3itoo, heetniixou’ouweeckooheen.”
this when you die you will go straight home [to heaven]

noh ne’niihiisiiini.
and that’s how it was

noh nehe’ nihoo3oo hino’oteihiit hiteteihiit.
and this White Man his power the thing he received

‘oh neneenini’ niinoohootow hiiwoonhehe’: ceebih’ohuunou’u, niinih’ohuuunou’u,
and it you see it today things that fly airplanes

wohei hinee ho3iiwono, wohei hinee niinou’ou’u, hinee heeteci’,
wohei those ships wohei those they float in the ocean

ccheekuut, hotiwo’, heeneesce’esihehi3i’, ce’iskuu3oo, heenei’isiihi’.
electricity boats all the various things movies and so forth

beehiini... beehneenini’ nehe’ nihoo3oo hino’oteihiit.
all all of it this White Man his power

niinoohootow hiiwoonhehe’.
you see it today

‘oh nehe’ 3owo3nenitee, ‘oh hiihootei’i niixouuweeckoohot.
but this Indian and when he dies he goes straight back home

ne’niihiiseteteihi3i’ hinee nihoo3oo [hi]no’oteihiit.
that’s how they received it that White Man his power

ne’niihiisteteiht.
that’s how he received it

wohei nehe’ 3owo3nenitee, ‘oh hiihootei’i, ‘oh niixouuweeckoohot.
wohei this Indian and when he dies but he goes straight back home

nee’eesoo’ nuhu’ hoo3itoo.
it is thus this story

nohuusoho’/that’s how it is.
Long ago a man had two sons. One had brown skin, and the other had white skin.

“Wohei,” he said to his sons, “you are going to go hunting. Whoever brings meat home first, I will give him power. The kinds of meat I like are deer meat, antelope meat, elk meat, and moose meat. I like the taste of those. You’ll go hunting. Whoever brings meat home first, I’ll give him power.”

Wohei then the two boys got ready. They’re going hunting. Once they were ready, they set off.

Wohei the white-skinned one went out near the house and killed some goats. Wohei that was the meat he brought back to his father. “Wohei here’s the meat.” “Well, so you’re the more powerful one,” the man said to his son. Wohei he was the one to whom he gave the power. He bestowed the power on him.

Wohei then the other one brought home meat. “Wohei here’s the meat you were hungry for, father. Way far away, that’s where I went hunting. But my older brother, he has tricked you. He went out nearby, and killed our livestock, our goats. That’s the meat that he brought back to you.”

“Oh my gosh, you’re right! He has tricked me. And what’s more, I have already given him the power.”

Wohei,” he said to his son, “I’m going to give you something better,” he said to him. When you [brown-skinned ones] die, you’ll go straight home.”

And that’s how it was. The White Man’s power, the thing that he got, well you see it today: flying vehicles, airplanes, and those ships, those ocean liners, electricity, cars, all kinds of different [mechanical and electrical] things, movies, and so forth. All of that is the White Man’s power. You see it today.

But the Indian, when he dies, he goes straight home. That’s how the White Man got his power. That’s how he got it. Wohei the Indian, when he dies, he goes straight home. That’s what the story says. That’s it.